

THE TIMES

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Labour MP resigns from party

Mr Bryan Magee, Labour MP for Waltham Forest, Leyton, since 1974, shocked a routine constituency meeting by announcing his resignation from the party. He said he would continue representing the area but had no plans to join another party. The local party immediately demanded that he step down and fight a by-election. He has a majority of 4,403.

'Scandal' of girl in custody

An angry judge demanded a parliamentary inquiry into the public scandal of why a mentally subnormal girl has to stay in custody because no room can be found for her in hospital. "It is a wicked thing and an appalling state of affairs", Judge Chewynd-Talbot said at Wolverhampton Crown Court. Page 3

House prices fall 2 pc

Confirmation that house prices were falling comes from the Abbey National Building Society. It reported that the average cost of a house, £24,688 slipped by 2 per cent last year.

Hitler dreamt of supertrain

Secret plans by Hitler to build 155 mph trains with carriages the size of houses running from the Volga to Paris and Hamburg to Istanbul have been discovered by a West German railway official. Page 4

Rape doctor speaks out

The psychiatrist in the Glasgow rape case has denied advising against a prosecution because of the possible effect on the mental health of the victim. Dr Raymond Ansbil said he was surprised that the three accused youths were not put on trial. Page 2

TV apology to Civil Service

Central Television, successor to ATV, is to make a public apology on a programme on the Civil Service, *Rule Britannia*, after a complaint from Sir Antony Park, a former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry. Page 2

Players hurt in bottle incident

Two Chelsea footballers were treated for injuries caused by flying glass after hooligans hurled a bottle through a window of the team coach. The players were returning after their FA Cup win over Hull City. Page 20

BBC lecturer

Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, is understood to have accepted an invitation from the BBC to give the postponed Dimbleby lecture in the spring.

£14,300 spoon

A silver spoon found in the church of a medieval farmhouse in Devon was sold at auction for £14,300, a record price. It was made in London in about 1380. Page 8

Tax rise delay

President Reagan has delayed a decision on whether to double excise taxes on cigarettes, liquor and other luxuries after public opinion polls indicated strong opposition. Page 4

Speedy Botham

Ian Botham hit one of the quickest recorded centuries, including seven sixes, in England's cricket match against Central Zone. He scored 122 from 55 balls out of England's 367 for five. Page 20

Pick your unit trusts

Today is your last chance to enter *The Times* Money Programme competition to pick the best performing unit trust. Page 17

Leader page, 7 Letters: On home buying, from Mr Chris Pond; Anglican orders, from the Bishop of Aberdeen, and Father Deryk Hansell, SJ. Leading articles: Poland; Magistrates and teachers. Features, page 6 Henry Kissinger criticizes President Reagan's foreign policy, part 2; Martin Gilbert reconstructs the meeting 40 years ago that led to the Nazi Final Solution; Asa Briggs and the steam engine. Obituary, page 8 Dorothy Howell, Lady Reed, Mr R. T. Scott.

Home News 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Murray joins peace talks

Moonlighting charge sets off new rail chaos

By David Felton, Donald Macintyre and Tony Samstag

Fresh peace talks to seek a solution to the two week old railways dispute got under way last night as British Rail grappled with wildest strikes by train drivers furious about newspaper allegations of moonlighting, sleeping on duty, and drinking in clubs when they should have been working. Drivers at Waterloo, in London, walked out yesterday morning for 24 hours and seriously disrupted commuter services from the south coast. Liverpool Street services were affected also by a walk out of 100 drivers who are based at Stratford, east London. Railway workers at King's Cross last night took the unprecedented decision to refuse to handle copies of *The Sun* which carried the original allegations. They also decided to "black" other publications owned by Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International group.

An appeal for the drivers to lift the blacking, by Mr Donald Pullen, Aslef's assistant general secretary, at a meeting of 70 railmen last night, was rejected. "I appealed to the drivers not to take action against *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. It is our contention that both these papers have put over a reasonably honest portrayal of this dispute and that it does us no good if we can't get our view across", Mr Pullen said.

Aslef officials said the vote had been overwhelming with only one hand raised against the proposal that the ban should be maintained. Mr Steven Forey, secretary of the 200 member Kings Cross Aslef branch, said last night: "I am a believer in the freedom of the press but I do not believe that the press should be allowed to indulge in or incite the public to take violent physical action against the railways. Is what *The Sun* has really doing."

British Rail opens inquiry on drivers. The three unions and BR management went to the offices of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service last night to search for a formula to end the pay and productivity dispute between the management and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen.

It is thought that the unions, who were also joined by Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, were discussing Acaas proposals for a rapid arbitration to end the dispute which has led to five days of strikes, with another strike threatened for tomorrow.

British Rail has started an inquiry into the allegations against drivers. The inquiry, which was made in *The Sun* by two trainee drivers, Mr Geoffrey Leighson and Mr Max Wallace, both aged 23 and from Southampton.

It was learnt last night that Mr Wallace is facing crown court proceedings on four charges including one of dishonestly obtaining one day's pay, £16.02, belonging to British Railways Board. He is also charged with falsifying a second man's daily record of work required for a certain accounting purpose—namely for payment of wages which to his knowledge was false.

Mr Wallace, of Eastleigh, said last night that he would be denying all the charges, which were brought by British Transport Police. "They have nothing at all to do with what we say is happening on the railways at the moment."

In the interview in *The Sun*, Mr Wallace and Mr Leighson claimed that drivers drank and danced at clubs when they should have been working; signed on for work and then went home to sleep; wrote letters to suit the convenience of drivers; and allowed trainee drivers in their teens to drive locomotives unsupervised while they slept off the effects of

Hopes rise with new interest rate cuts

By John Whitmore

The cost of bank borrowing is to be marginally cheaper from Monday after a week that has seen most leading European countries move to lower their interest rates in an attempt to stimulate the European economy.

All the leading British banks announced yesterday that they are reducing their base lending rates from 14½ to 14 per cent. Rates offered on seven-day notice deposits came down to 11½ or 12 per cent.

Bank mortgage rates are not being reduced yet, and neither are the building societies' lending rates, but the money will give new hope to business.

Mr Richard Wein, secretary-general of the Building Societies Association, said that societies could not reduce their rates until the Government moved to lower the returns offered by National Savings.

Yesterday's round of base rate cuts, led off by National Westminster bank, the City by surprise. The feeling had been that the banks would wait until next week.

But it has become increasingly clear over the past few days that the authorities are ready to see interest rates lower.

With rates being cut in West Germany, Switzerland and Holland, speculation has grown that last week's meeting of the finance ministers of the United States, Britain, West Germany, France and Japan—the "Group of Five"—had arrived at some common accord, if not necessarily a formal arrangement, for progressively lowering interest rates.

European governments in particular are worried that the present high cost of borrowing could threaten the success of a aggressively lowering rates.

The American Government would like to see a fall in American interest rates, too. The fear at the moment, however, is that the Federal Reserve, the United States central bank, which is independently of the Government, may keep American rates firm until it is more confident that the money supply is under control.

Bank acts, page 15

Free my husband, says Mrs Walesa

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 22

Amid growing domestic pressure against the Polish Government's internment policy, the wife of Mr Lech Walesa, the detained leader of Solidarity, the free trade union, has demanded that the authorities declare on what legal grounds he is being held.

In a letter to the Gdansk regional prosecutor, Mrs Danuta Walesa said that her husband had been held for more than four weeks without any charges being made. Mr Walesa, she said, had not been formally arrested nor was he being "temporarily detained" as provided for in the Polish legal code, because he should have been released within 48 hours.

Mrs Walesa, in a tightly argued letter that had obviously been written after legal advice, concluded that her husband was being held illegally and demanded an explanation from the prosecutor.

The letter, a copy of which has reached Western correspondents, is the spearhead of a gathering campaign to demonstrate the fundamental illegality of internment.

Asked about the legal status of Mr Walesa, Professor Witold Zakrzewski, head of the legal commission of the Sejm (the parliament and therefore, technically the highest lawmaking body in Poland) said: "I really do not know the status of Mr Walesa and have not taken much interest in it."

Another official added that Mr Walesa was probably being held "under the present regulations concerning internment which allow various degrees of deprivation of freedom."

It is clear that martial law will not be dropped next week but rather that the Military Council will make use of its administrative discretion to relax certain of the extant restrictions.

Loz explosion: Seven people were taken to hospital, two of them in serious condition, after part of an 11-storey block of flats collapsed in Lodz, central Poland, as a result of an explosion, Warsaw radio reported. (AP reports from Vienna). It said the cause was probably a gas explosion.

Antisemitic trend, page 4

Leading article, page 7

Odhams to close with loss of 1,900 jobs

Odhams, the printing company at Watford, Hertfordshire, announced last night that it will close by April 30, with more than 1,900 redundancies.

The announcement followed a last-minute breakdown of talks yesterday between management and the National Graphical Association print union over proposals for new working arrangements. The NGA apparently reversed a decision taken on Thursday to endorse the proposals.

Closure notices are being sent to the workforce, which produces mass circulation magazines for International Publishing Corporation, the parent company.

Other print unions had given their blessing to the proposals, which involved up to 371 redundancies and new working arrangements to bring the workforce down to 1,530.

The NGA was unhappy about having to work a new multi-million pound press with fewer people. But union officials at local and national level were unavailable for comment.

At Sun Printers, Odhams' main rival in the town, management and unions are trying to reach a similar survival plan involving 338 job losses, on top of the 450 redundancies last year.

Odhams print the *Sunday Express* colour magazine, and IPC periodicals including *Woman*, *Farmers' Weekly*, *Popular Gardening*, *Fetticoat* and *Ideal Home*.

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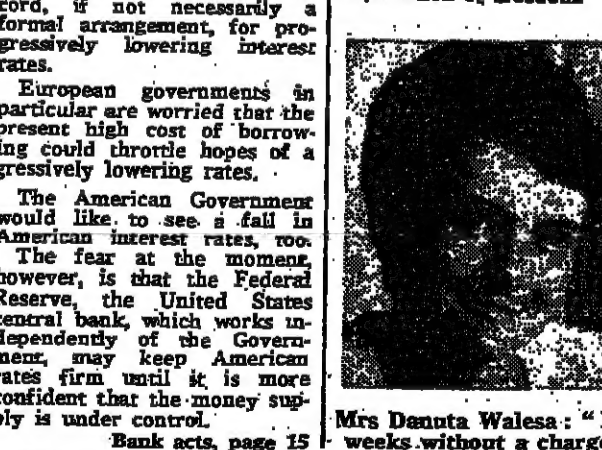
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Mrs Danuta Walesa: "Four weeks without a charge"

Antisemitic trend, page 4

Leading article, page 7

US sidesteps weapons talks

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Jan 22

The Reagan Administration will not agree to an early commencement of strategic arms reduction talks when Mr Alexander Haig, Secretary of State, meets Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, in Geneva next week.

Officials said today that the decision to cut the meeting from two days to one and to concentrate on Poland was to emphasize to the Russians the depth of American anger at the Soviet Union's involvement in the martial law crackdown in Poland.

The Haig-Gromyko summit was to have taken place on Tuesday and Wednesday and was expected to result in agreement on when and where strategic arms reduction talks (known as START) should begin. March was considered a likely date.

Yesterday, however, a State Department spokesman said the men would only have one meeting on Tuesday and that they would concentrate on Poland rather than nuclear weapons. Officials emphasized that although the United States remained interested in the concept of strategic arms reduction talks it did not want to

begin them under the cloud of Poland.

The spokesman said the United States wanted to negotiate with the Soviet Union in good faith in the Geneva talks on reducing intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe. The talks were continuing in the present circumstances.

The question of linking arms reduction talks with the Polish crisis has vexed the Administration since the martial law began on December 13.

One powerful group within the Administration, conscious of European views on this issue and the need to preserve unity within the Western alliance, has sought to keep the question of arms talks separate from the overall United States response to the crisis.

A healthy tonic for ailing spas

By Robin Young, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

The British Tourist Authority yesterday revealed the first spark of hope will breathe new life into British spas, which, despite a healthy reputation, seemed set, only a few years ago, to die on their feet.

Lady Spencer, mother-in-law of the Prince of Wales and daughter of the redoubtable testament to health care of every kind, Barbara Cartland, has been made chairman of BTA's new board, set up one week after joining the BTA board.

Yesterday Lady Spencer and Sir Henry Marking, the authority's chairman, joined forces to launch a new battle to restore to Britain's neglected spas on a tide of saline and spring waters, both bubbly and still.

The BTA first drew attention to the spas plight in 1975, and has since sent missions abroad to study spas in Germany, Belgium and Hungary. The conclusion, broadly, was that British spas, once leaders in the field, had been crippled by the National Health Service, which denied patients free treatments at their favourite watering holes.

The new brochure has been produced in English, French, German and Dutch; there are 40,000 copies to be distributed overseas, giving the praises of Buxton, Cheltenham, Droitwich, Harrogate, Leamington, Llandrindod Wells, Malvern, Tunbridge Wells and Woodhall Spa.

Perhaps the best known British spa of all, Bath, is omitted because the city is not at present a member of the British Spas Federation, which has cooperated in producing the booklet.

Lady Spencer admitted yesterday that she has "sampled the attractions, but not the mud baths" of Continental spas like Baden-Baden and Montecatini. On the other hand she had opened a building in Droitwich and a bazaar in Leamington, toured Cheltenham, and had been practically brought up on Malvern water.

Responding to her vivacious lead, spokesmen for some spas declared their boroughs' commitment to the salubrious cause. Droitwich declared that though its water was 10 times saltier than sea water, and so totally undrinkable, £9.5m it being invested in new brine baths and a 50-bed hospital.

Leamington, sole surviving treatment centre among Britain's spas, announced that it was still giving 60,000 physiotherapy and hydrotherapy treatments each year. It was considering opening at weekends and in the evenings.

Everybody agreed that spas should be declared development areas, qualifying for life-sustaining government grants.

The revival was toasted in sparkling Malvern, Harrogate, Cheltenham, and Ashbourne Springs; but the waters of Cheltenham, so efficacious that they come in tiny bottles with very tight caps, remained a mystery. Nobody had sufficient health or strength to open one.



Watching and waiting: Passengers seek information from the indicator boards at London's Waterloo Station.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Disciplinary trial halted by students

More than 50 students blocked the entrance to a building at Sussex University yesterday where a disciplinary hearing against three students accused of throwing tomatoes at Dr David Owen, one of the leaders of the Social Democratic Party, was to be held (our Brighton Correspondent writes).

The three accused, two women and a man, failed to appear before the disciplinary panel and the senate disciplinary committee is to begin its hearing on the charges against the students involved in the demonstration.

The tomato-throwing took place when Dr Owen, MP for Plymouth, Devonport, was speaking at a meeting in November. The three are accused of bringing the university into disrepute.

Challenge over fuel hardship

The London Electricity Consumer Council (LECC) has challenged the electricity industry's estimates of the cost of amending the code of practice governing disconnections to afford adequate protection to people in genuine hardship (see our London Correspondent's report).

The LECC says that the industry's calculations of the costs on which they were made.

The LECC says it is sceptical of the figures. Some of the reform proposals would improve cash flow, interest charges, and reduce the costs of the present code.

The LECC says that most customers who are disconnected belong to groups who suffer hardship.

Pall Mall move for booksellers

Pickering and Chatto, the antiquarian booksellers whose chairman is Sir William Rees-Mogg, former editor of *The Times*, has acquired the business and premises of Dawson of Pall Mall, specialists in the fields of science, medicine, economics and travel literature.

The combined business will trade as Pickering and Chatto, moving to Pall Mall at the end of March. Sir William said last night: "Dawson of Pall Mall are world leaders in their main area, and I hope to maintain that reputation."

QC cites threat by Heseltine

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, was considering last summer taking steps to have Labour members of Norwich City Council surcharged, Mr Nigel McLeod, QC, for the council told the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The threat was because of alleged failure to carry out the right-to-buy provisions of the Housing Act. Norwich wants Mr Heseltine's takeover of the city housing stocks to be declared illegal.

Ballet tour cancelled

The Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet has cancelled its one-week tour to Glasgow, which was due to begin on Monday because of a dispute involving the 46 musicians in its orchestra.

Supported by the Musicians' Union, the musicians had asked for a retainer payment for the periods in the year when the ballet is on tour without the orchestra.

Needle in PC's eye

Police Constable Stephen Maher, aged 26, was badly injured yesterday when a prisoner he was escorting back to Brixton jail in south London thrust a needle into his eye. Last night doctors thought they had been able to save his sight.

Francis separation

Claire Francis, the yachtswoman, has separated from her husband, Mr Jacques Redon. The couple have been married for four years and have a son aged three.

Central TV will apologize over Civil Service film

By Robert Jones

Central Television is to make a televised apology on Monday over a programme on the Civil Service *Rule Britannia*, shown on August 13, last year, by ATV, its predecessor company. It will be the first such apology under the new provisions of the Independent Broadcasting Authority's Complaints Review Board.

The complaint was made by Sir Antony Part, a former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry. The board has ruled that Sir Antony had grounds for complaint, and ATV has accepted the verdict without reservation and will be making a full public apology.

Rule Britannia opened with a clip of *The Charge of the Light Brigade* and went on to assert that the Civil Service was run by amateurs.

Sir Antony's main complaints were that he had agreed to take part in the programme after being assured that it was a balanced and fair one, and that the relevant parts of the interview he gave were not shown. When the programme was shown it was prefaced by a statement that was a personal view of Mr James Bellini, the presenter.

It turned out to be strongly biased, Sir Antony

complained, in which criticisms of the Civil Service were prominently featured, to which the only reply was a short extract from a speech by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and in which selective filming invariably conveyed an image disadvantageous to the Civil Service.

None of Sir Antony's long contribution, which contained a rebuttal of the criticisms, was shown. Only two brief comments by Sir Antony, which were about the state of industry, not about the Civil Service, were included.

The gist of the defence, made by Mr Charles Denton, who was then ATV's controller of programmes, was that the course of the programme was influenced by the unprecedented industrial relations conflicts then taking place in the Civil Service. These developments had to be covered to provide an accurate reflection of a complex situation, and they squeezed out other material.

ATV apologized by letter to Sir Antony on September 17 for having failed to inform him that the programme would carry a "personal view" label. The complaints board has ruled that the change in the nature of the programme deserved a more substantial apology than that.

Unionists facing poll clash

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A critical by-election in Northern Ireland is likely to be contested by the rival Democratic Unionist and Official Unionist parties despite continuing discussions between them to find a "loyalist" candidate for the Belfast, South seat.

With both parties aware that the by-election is being seen as a test of which party commands the greater support among Unionists, the Rev Martin Smyth, one of the Official Unionists' leading figures, is one of five seeking his party's nomination for the vacancy. He topped the poll in the same constituency in the 1977 general election, and is in his first attempt at a Westminster seat.

Mr Robert McCartney, a QC, is also seeking the nomination. He has emerged on to the political scene since last November and said yesterday: "South Belfast is the Official Unionist Party's *Alamo*. If they do not win there, and do not face up to the political situation from which the party is suffering, they will die on their feet."

The seat has been vacant since the murder by the IRA last November of the Rev Robert Bradford, who had a majority of 17,130 at the last general election. Mr Paisley returned to the province yesterday from Canada where he had been publicizing the Unionist case, the United States State Department having refused to allow him a visa. He said the ban had created the interest in his visit and that he had set up an organisation in Canada called "Friends of Ulster" aimed at countering IRA propaganda.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is expected to meet Dr Garret FitzGerald, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, in Dublin in the spring. The meeting is a continuation of the Anglo-Irish talks aimed at putting relations with Dublin on to a similar footing to those with Britain's other Republic, Eire.

Mr Owen Carron, Independent Republican MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone and a supporter of the Provisional IRA, was in the custody of United States immigration authorities on the country illegally from Canada.

Mr Danny Morrison, head of publicity at Provisional Sinn Féin's headquarters in Belfast, was arrested shortly after the arrest of Mr Carron, due to appear before a magistrate in Belfast, New York State.

Gerald McLaughlin, aged 21, unemployed, of Craggan Road, Londonderry, was charged at a special court in Londonderry with the murder of Deborah Anne Rowe, aged 19, found dead with a gunshot wound in her chest last Tuesday. He was remanded

Hospital site sold back for £23,700

By Staff Reporters

The Government has decided that part of the St George's Hospital site at Hyde Park Corner in central London, which is worth millions of pounds, is to be sold back to Grosvenor Estates for £23,700, the price paid for it in 1906.

The site had been bought on condition that it would be used for the original price when it was no longer being used for a hospital, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday.

A part of the site, amounting to one third, is held in trust by the secretary of state subject to special provisions requiring it to be offered back to Grosvenor Estates, from whom it was originally acquired in 1907.

Since then, it has been held at a virtual peppercorn, according to Mr Geoffrey Fincher, Under-Secretary of State, Health and Social Security, in a statement to the Commons yesterday.

As the site was no longer required, the department would be offering that section of the site back to Grosvenor Estates. Mr Fincher told the House that proposals for development, if given final approval, would include both reconstruction and new building.

The development would involve restoration of the original listed building designed by William Wilkins to its original proportions. He pointed out that the department was spending £100,000 a year on security for the site.

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, an Opposition spokeswoman on health and social security, described the statement as extraordinary. She said the site was worth millions, claiming that the Government was apparently prepared to sell back a priceless asset to one of the richest estates in Britain without so much as a murmur.

BBC RADIO AND TV NEWS SPLIT

BBC news on radio and television is to be split to become the separate responsibility of the managing director of each service, under the corporation's reshuffled management.

The move comes after the resignation of Sir Richard Francis's job of director of news and current affairs. Mr Francis will become managing director of BBC radio.

A statement issued by Sir Ian Trethowan, the BBC's retiring director general, said that Mr Francis and Mr Alan Protheroe, the former editor of BBC television news who has been appointed assistant to the director general, in charge of journalism, will work out details of the reorganisation.



The Duchess of Kent with Neil Brockman son of one of the lifeboat victims.

Duke's tribute to lifeboatmen

From John Witherow, Mousehole

The village of Mousehole, Cornwall, turned out in strength yesterday to pay its final respects to the eight Penlee lifeboatmen who died in mountainous seas on December 19.

About 500 people crammed into the tiny windowless Paul parish church overlooking the village for a moving remembrance service to the crew of the Solomon Browne lifeboat, which was smashed to pieces as it attempted unsuccessfully to save eight people aboard the doomed coaster Union Star.

Across the road a further

200 sat in a draughty marquee, straining to hear the relayed proceedings above the flapping of the canvas. Outside the church, where three of the crew are buried, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution flag stood at half mast.

The Duke of Kent, president of the RNLI, flew from London to read a lesson. He was accompanied by the Duchess of Kent and Rear-Admiral Wilfred Graham, director and secretary of the RNLI.

Mr Clive Gunnell, a local television personality, and friend of some of the dead men, gave an address in which

he said the finest monument could not be erected in stone but should live on in the spirit of the people.

They did their work instantly without asking why and using that awful sentence: "What is it for me?" he said.

The Duke and Duchess were taken to the vicarage where they met the five widows and 12 fatherless children bereaved by the disaster. Mrs Mary Greenhaugh, licensee of the Ship Inn, whose husband died, said the Duchess of Kent "promised to come and have a drink with me in my pub when she is on holiday".

The rape controversy

Doctor speaks out

From Our Correspondent, Glasgow

The psychiatrist at the centre of the Glasgow rape case yesterday denied advising against a prosecution because it might damage the victim's mental health.

Dr Raymond Antebi was reported to have said that the victim, who had twice attempted suicide, would have suffered permanent mental damage if forced to give evidence.

But yesterday he said from the Eastern District Hospital in Glasgow: "I saw nothing in my interviews with her that would have seemed to me to prevent the prosecution taking place."

"At no time did I state that there should be no prosecution because of the victim's mental health. I do feel that there should be a change in the law and that some provision be made by which a woman should be spared the unpleasant factor of being forced to submit to an open court examination in an open court."

Three teenagers who were accused of rape and attempted murder escaped prosecution after Scottish law officials considered the evidence, including a report from Dr Antebi.

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn resigned as Solicitor-General for Scotland on Thursday night after defending in the Commons the decision not to prosecute. He apologized to MPs for speaking to the press about the reasons for the decision before reporting to Parliament.

Labour MPs demand more information

Opposition pressure for a clearer statement from Scottish law officers about the case was maintained yesterday despite Mr Fairbairn's resignation (our Political Editor writes).

Labour MPs were insisting that the public needed reassurance on two particular points: why it was not possible for the Crown Office in Edinburgh to prosecute for assault even if a rape conviction could not have been achieved without the victim giving evidence; and why, if there was doubt, the indictment against the three youths could not have been left in abeyance so

Seven-year jail sentence upheld

Seven-year jail sentences on two men who raped a girl aged 17 were "not a day too long", Court of Appeal judge said yesterday. A five-year term on a younger man who joined in was also upheld (the Press Association reports).

Mr Justice Drake, sitting in London with Lord Justice Evershed and Mr Justice Milmo, said the attack on the girl at a house in Leeds last February was nasty, vicious and wicked.

The court refused applications by Terence Clarke, aged 24, of Neville Close, Leeds, and Philip Wardlaw, aged 21, of Harlech Terrace, Leeds, for leave to appeal against the sentences.

Robert Evans, aged 19, of Lingfield Approach, Leeds, had his appeal against sentence dismissed.

Land's End grant available

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Government subsidies for the restoration of Land's End will be paid to Mr David Goldstone, the new owner, if he agrees to adopt landscaping changes planned by the National Trust. The Countryside Commission, a leading supporter of the trust's bid for the property, said yesterday that "several hundred thousand pounds" were available for restoration.

The commission appealed to ministers last month for £500,000 to be added to the trust's offer for Land's End, the most famous piece of privately owned coastline in Britain. The Government refused to pay and Mr Goldstone won the bidding on Thursday with an offer of £500,000 above the trust's £125,000.

The trust was ready with a plan more comprehensive than that proposed by Mr Charles Neave-Hill, the previous owner. It wanted to demolish buildings near the cliffs, repair erosion and build a new car park, a visitor reception area, a wall behind the most scenic part of the property near the coast.

The commission, statutory guardian of the rural landscape, is watching the fate of Land's End because it lies in an official area of outstanding natural beauty.

Mr Goldstone was not available for comment.

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LT to close Tube stations and cut buses

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

London Underground stations will be shut, peak-hour trains will be fewer and more crowded, and bus services will be cut as a result of the Law Lords' judgment on the "Fares Fair" policy, London Transport said yesterday.

When fares double next March Underground services will start 30 minutes later in the morning, at about 6 am, and finish 30 minutes earlier, at about midnight. Some night bus services from the West End and Fleet Street area to places such as Enfield, Romford, and Tooting, will stop. There will be reduced frequency on nearly all routes, so that a 10-minute wait will become about 11 minutes, the authority said.

The effect of the cuts will be to save £22m on operating costs in a full year, and £32m on capital expenditure over four years.

We very much regret these cuts, which will mean more traffic on the roads", the authority said last night. "We are not happy about the proposals, which are the result of being forced to act in a business rather than a social way."

The longer term three Tube stations, Regent's Park and Edgware Road on the Bakerloo Line, and Farringham in Essex on the Central will be closed (the former two need millions of pounds spent on new lines). Branch line closure will shut Aldwych, Ongar, North Weald, and Shoreditch stations.

Three other branch lines, Croxley-Watford, Woodford-Rainault, and Whitechapel-New Cross, may be retained but as many other stations which London Transport would not name.

"We have no appetite for service cuts", Sir Peter Massfield, chairman of the authority, said yesterday, "especially as current low fares have increased our business. But we have to accept that higher fares from March 21 will reduce demand by up to a fifth, and service reductions are less than this. We are also taking steps to ensure that our services, though marginally less frequent, will I hope be more reliable."

Underground services are being cut by 5 per cent from 30.3 million train miles last year to 28.7 million. That will be achieved mainly by cuts in peak-hour services. An average interval in a typical central station will rise from two and a half to three minutes between trains.

The authority hopes that will not lead to undue overcrowding because it expects an 11 per cent drop in Underground passengers as a result of the fare rise. The number of passengers has already fallen by 16 per cent in 10 years.

Merseyside County Council is to continue its cheap bus fares scheme even though it could leave it £23m short in the new tax year.

But the council has shelved plans for further fare cuts in October because of target budget figures set by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Science report

Yoga puts warmth in Tibetan toes

By the Staff of "Nature"

All kinds of privations have been practised in the name of religion, from fasting to hair shirts, but one of the most bizarre must be the Tibetan *gum-mo* (heat) yoga, whose thermal achievements have now been investigated and confirmed by a team of American and Indian scientists.

A novice *gum-mo* yogi must start off with a strong vocation and a predilection for cold. He begins his exercise sitting cross-legged and naked on the ground. Sheets soaked in icy water are wrapped around him. His task is to dry the sheet with the warmth of his body, created by the drawing in of *prana*, the vapour of scattered, normal consciousness, into the "central channel" of the body.

Alas, when the sheet is dry it is taken from him. Another icy sheet replaces the first. When that is dry, there comes a third, and so on through the night.

This activity still goes on after the Chinese invasion of Tibet, in a monastic community in Upper Dhamarsa, in northern India; and, with the permission of the Dalai Lama, a team from the Harvard Medical School, the US Army Research Institute, and other interested laboratories in the USA and India, set out to investigate.

The results are remarkable. Precised *gum-mo* yogis can raise the temperature of their fingers and toes by more than 8°C (15°F) by taking thought; or, more strictly, by meditating.

The research team wired up a number of *gum-mo* yogis with thermometers to measure internal (rectal) temperatures, and the temperature of chest, forearms, fingers and toes, and asked the yogis to meditate. One 58-year-old, sitting quietly in the lotus posture, raised his finger temperature by 6°C in under an hour, and warmed his toes by 7°C. A youngster of 46 managed over 7°C in his fingers, part of the rise occurring after he had stopped meditating, but the record came with a 50-year-old who warmed his toes 8.3°C in 45 minutes.

Meanwhile, however, there were no changes in internal body temperature. The changes in other parts of the body and in the air temperature were slight.

That suggests that what the yogis were doing was to raise mental control of their vascular system, have shown the smooth muscle that opens and narrows blood vessels to increase and diminish blood flow in tissues. Normally the system is not under conscious control, but experiments on non-yogi, western subjects have shown that a degree of control can be learnt, though to nothing like so great a degree as the *gum-mo* have achieved.

Source: *Nature* (vol 295 p 23, 7 1982).
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Health service allocation criticized as unrealistic

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Allocations of money to the regional health authorities, announced in Parliament yesterday, showed London and the South-east again coming off worst and East Anglia and Trent coming out on top.

Since the Resources Allocation Working Party reported in 1976, Westmore, have been made to redistribute money in the health service away from the wealthy South-east towards the underfunded regions.

The overall growth rate of 1.7 per cent for the health service for 1982-83 was criticized as inadequate by Mr William Davis, chairman of the National Association of Health Authorities.

It was scarcely enough to cover the increased burden on the health service brought by the rise in the number of old people and would not allow enough flexibility to redistribute resources in favour of the priority areas: community care, preventive medicine, and services for the mentally ill and handicapped.

Mr Darling said that the allowance for growth also depended on pay being kept to 4 per cent and prices to 9 per cent.

The percentage increases for each region are: East Anglia 3.25; Trent 3.00; Wessex 2.79; North-Western 2.79; Northern 2.45; South-Western 2.45; Oxford 2.20; West Midlands 2.20; Yorkshire 1.95; Mersey 1.13; South-West Thames 0.46; South-East Thames 0.34; North-East Thames 0.33; North-West Thames 0.30.

Cancer screening successes

Early detection of breast cancer by the use of breast X-ray examination (mammography) greatly improves the chances of survival, Dr Patricia Last, head of the women's unit of the British United Provident Association, said yesterday.

More than 70 per cent of women found to have breast cancer among the unscreened programmes carried out by BUPA are still alive seven years later.

The Minister for Consumer Affairs (Mrs Oppenheim) did not regard the present position with regard to house descriptions as satisfactory. She said she would be consulting with estate agents and others as satisfactory. Mr Reginald Eyre, Under Secretary of State for Trade, said in reply to a second reading debate on the Trade Descriptions (Amendment) Bill proposed by Mr Geoffrey Roberts (Camack, Lab).

Mr Eyre said the Estate Agents Act 1979 which had been brought into effect should be raised standards in this professional area. The minister (he added) will certainly consider whether there is need for further Government action and if so what the best vehicle for such action might be.

The debate was adjourned.

Success for BL with launch of Comet.

BL Systems are marketing the Comet electronic mailbox bureau service in the UK.

The Comet service is a computer based system that will have a tremendous effect on business communications.

It passes messages with written accuracy 24 hours a day and users can type in complex material such as a quote or specification. This is transmitted by

telephone with total accuracy and complete security. It will then appear typed out on the receiver's terminal exactly as sent.

Messages can be stored on computer in individual electronic "pigeon holes". So it can even be used for personal filing.

Comet terminals are no bigger than an ordinary briefcase. And every bit as portable. They can be used wherever there is a telephone. Anywhere in the world.

The Comet system presents a major step forward in the concept of an all-electronic office of the future.

The rights to sell Comet in the UK were won by BL Systems against strong competition.

BL Fighting back

Consumers to get more protection

MP's BILL

The Law Commission is to scrutinize the law relating to contracts of service to see how it can be modified and strengthened (see our Political Editor's report).

Minister for Consumer Affairs, announced during the debate in which the Supply of Goods and Services Bill obtained its second reading in the Commons, relating to certain contracts for the transfer of the property in goods, for the hire of goods and for the supply of a service.

Mrs Oppenheim said the bill would be welcomed as helping consumers in an area of widespread and justifiable dissatisfaction and frustration.

The Government could see considerable difficulties however in Clause 16 of the Bill, which proposed that traders should not be able to contract out of the implied term, that they should exercise reasonable care and skill when providing services.

Mr Frederick Willey (Sunderland, North, Lab), the sponsor, in moving the second reading, said that the law only protected sale of goods for money prices. His Bill extended that protection to transactions analogous to sale where goods were supplied but not bought only for money; a host of transactions would gain protection.

It would cover the case where an old car was traded in towards the purchase of a new one, or where goods were purchased with coupons or vouchers. Most importantly, the Bill covered goods which were provided under work and materials contracts. For instance, if a plumber fixed taps in a home, the protection would be the same as if the taps were bought in the shop.

The Bill also provided hire with similar statutory protection.

Hire was currently outside the Sale of Goods Act because there was no transfer of ownership. A host of goods were hired, such as television sets, cars and office equipment. By and large those services were satisfactory but there were some dissatisfactions.

The Bill provided statutory protection over contracts for services. There had been a vast increase in the provision of services. Firms had mushroomed. There are plenty of cowboys on the scene, and the Bill would codify and strengthen the existing common law which would be followed by a working paper seeking the views of interested parties before final proposals were made.

The position of consumers would be strengthened if the existing common law was codified so that consumers could rely on a specific statute. That was what the Bill sought to do.

Mr Thomas Cox (Wandsworth, Tooting, Lab) said it would help constituents if lists of approved persons who would guarantee to provide a first class service at reasonable cost were made available by local authorities.

John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on prices and consumer protection (Lambeth, Norwood, Lab) said for too long the sharks and rogues had been able to take advantage of the vagueness of the situation and in doing so had damaged the reputation of honest traders and craftsmen.

Mrs Janet Peakes (Plymouth, Devon, Lab) said the descriptive blurb used by estate agents would be covered by the Bill. Some of the descriptions of property were almost a laughing stock. A "house of character" frequently turned out to be an ugly Victorian villa with no damp control.

Mrs Oppenheim said she hoped agreement on the text of the doorstep selling directive would be reached soon, subject to agreement on the final text accepted, then legislation by Bill or order would have to follow.

She confirmed that if a subcontractor breached a job the consumer could proceed against the original contractor.

The Bill was read a second time.

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The debate was adjourned.

PARLIAMENT January 22, 1982

Subnormal girl's detention outrages judge

From our Correspondent, Wolverhampton

A judge said yesterday it was outrageous that no hospital place can be found for Julie Garratt, a mentally subnormal girl, aged 19, who has been held in custody since August after being convicted of assault. At the time it was said she needed secure treatment for life.

Judge Chesterman, who was forced to remand Garratt in custody again, said at Wolverhampton Crown Court: "I cannot restrain myself from my indignation. I am not concerned with administrative claptrap. I want this poor unfortunate girl to be found a place in hospital. She has been languishing in custody week by week. It really is a public scandal."

"It is a wicked thing and an appalling state of affairs. I want it to be brought to the attention of the whole nation. It is a most appalling situation when this girl cannot be found a bed and cannot be looked after, I have no alternative but to leave her at the remand centre because the health authority will not find her a bed. It is a scandal that she should be kept in conditions like this, something that anyone with human sympathy must feel."

"She has now been before the court four times and still nothing has been done. It is no good leaving her in the equivalent of a prison, it is a wicked thing to do."

The Dudley Area Health Authority will have to seriously consider paying for her to go to a secure hospital. I hope that a public enquiry is asked for so that the case can be investigated. I want it raised at the highest possible level if only to ensure it does not happen again."

"It must go before Parliament and I hope that the minister will be induced to find an answer to this outrageous state of affairs."

Up, up and away go the dustbin liners

By Ronald Faux

Flying shopping bags and airborne dustbin liners are proving an irritation for the Civil Aviation Authority, which has received a barrage of applications from enthusiasts who build balloons out of those unlikely materials, and register them.

"We have to treat these flying machines seriously, even though many are made merely to obtain a registration number. They could be a hazard if they were released," a CAA official said.

About 300 such non-manned balloons have been registered with the authority. Ways of removing the regulations to exclude plastic bags are being considered.

The reason for the rash of odd balloons is probably that they offer a cheap way of appearing on the official list of aircraft owners and thus securing a registration number. Plane-spotting in Britain attracts the same zeal as did train-spotting in the heyday of steam.

The enthusiasts find personal registration very appealing, especially when the so-called aircraft can be built for a few pence, and having it registered costs only £5.

The law states that any balloon that is flown and measures more than 2 metres across must have a registration number. The aircraft authority explained that that was a safety measure in case the balloon drifted into an aircraft, was sucked into the engine of a passing jet, or descended in the middle of a motorway.

"The intention seems to be that these balloons are not for flying even though they acquire a registration number. Some miniature balloons that are flown are really very interesting. We have to take all-round view and include these supermarket bags and dustbin liners in the same group," the CAA said.

Mailer accepts verdict on protégé is fair

From Michael Hamlyn, New York, Jan 22

Norman Mailer, the writer, said yesterday that he thought the manslaughter verdict against his protégé Jack Abbott, the jailhouse author, was appropriate.

"I think it was a fair verdict," he said, adding that he was highly dubious that Mr Abbott was guilty of premeditation.

Mr Abbott had faced a charge of murder for killing a waiter outside a Greenwich Village bistro while he was out of jail on a work release programme. But his counsel impressed the jury by describing the convict-writer's life in institutions, which he claimed had brutalized him and so confused him that he was acting under "extreme emotional disturbance."

Mr Abbott admitted stabbing the waiter, a newly married actor and aspiring playwright called Richard Adan, but said that he thought Mr Adan was threatening him.

The judge will sentence him on February 24 after psychiatric testing. It was Mr Abbott's thirty-eighth birthday yesterday, and he has spent 24 of those years in penal institutions. He says he has spent 15 years in solitary confinement. He wrote to Norman Mailer after the publication of Mr Mailer's book on Gary Gilmore, and a correspondence developed which Mr Mailer was instrumental in having published as *In The Belly Of The Beast*. The book is a best seller.

Mr Mailer also sponsored the convict's release from jail, and gave him work as a literary researcher. But his protégé proved unable to cope with life on the outside.

Mr Mailer has had a great deal of criticism for his support of Mr Abbott since the murder took place. Newspapers have editorialized against him, urging him to "get his head on straight" (New York News), or recall-

ing that he himself stabbed his wife in the stomach 20 years ago.

At one time he wrote: "It takes a literal faith in the creative possibilities of the human being to envisage acts of violence as the catharsis which prepares growth". He had a stormy press conference during the trial in which he pleaded for leniency for Mr Abbott, but he lost his temper and called one woman journalist a

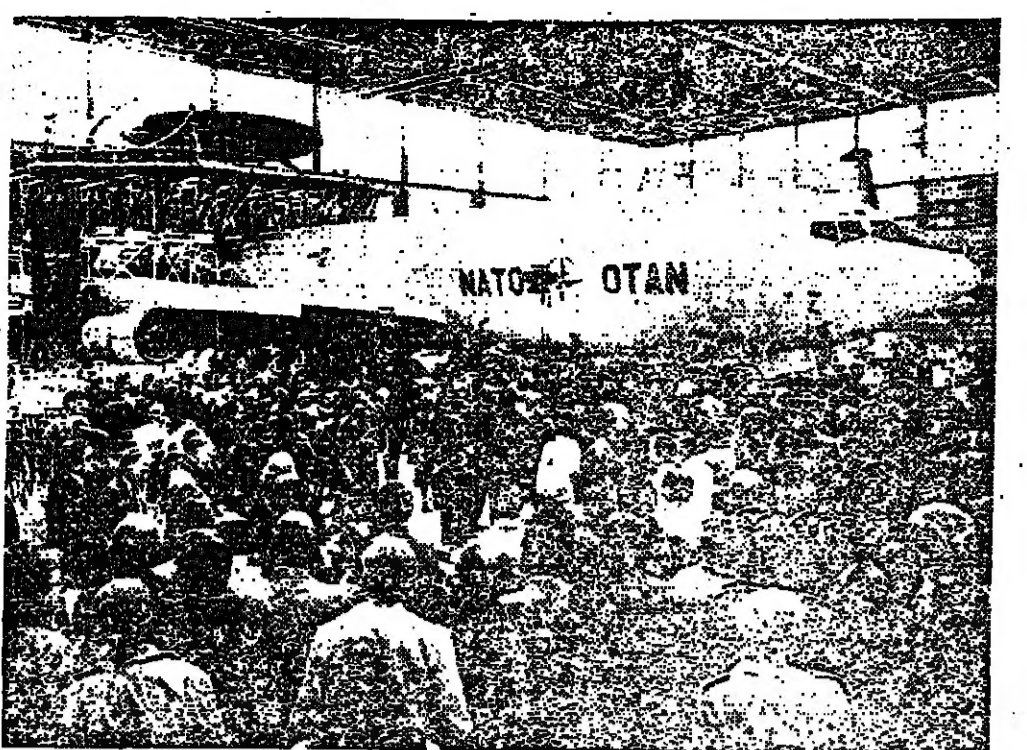
But other writers have been more supportive. At a special conference held jointly by Pen, the writers' association and the Fortune Society which helps ex-prisoners, William Styron, author of *Sophistic Choice* said that his heart went out to Mr Mailer because "I have an Abbott in my life". His protégé in prison was about to be paroled when he bolted, kidnapped and raped a Massachusetts housewife.

"I haven't lost faith in him," Mr Styron said. "I hope to be able to walk with him through New York City sometime soon." And Katherine Perutz who is a novelist and the founder of Pen's correspondence programme among writers in and out of prison related one case that — so far — has a happy outcome.

She told of a former drug addict who left prison and returned to the street. She said he told her: "Everyone else is shooting up, but not me. I'm a writer."

There was not a great deal of further support from that meeting. Edward Albee, author of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* called the Abbott trial an "appalling circus".

Mr Abbott has previous convictions. He has already been convicted of bank robbery and of killing a fellow prisoner. But the judge has a good deal of flexibility



The list of Nato's 18 Awaacs aircraft in Europe being handed over to the allied forces near Munich yesterday. The aircraft, costing about £1,000m, will be deployed near Aachen on the German-Dutch border by 1985.

PUBLISHER GIVEN LIFE SENTENCE

From Jacqueline Reditt, Seoul, Jan 22

Speculators in a packed court shouted, waved their fists and wept today after Mr Lee Tae Bok, the South Korean publisher, had been sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr Lee, aged 30, a Roman Catholic, was found guilty of violating the national security law and the state prosecutor had demanded the death penalty. He was accused of publishing and distributing banned foreign books, mostly by Marxist authors, and of organizing student and labour groups with the aim of spreading communist ideals and overthrowing the government.

Although the prosecution originally claimed that only 18 people were involved in Mr Lee's case, 25 defendants stood trial with him today.

His former editor, Lee Son Kun, was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Seoul tries again for Korean reunification

From Our Correspondent, Seoul, Jan 22

President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea today made a new offer of peaceful cooperation with the Communist regime of North Korea. He proposed a formula for reunification and made it clear that his 1981 proposals to exchange visits with President Kim Il-Sung of North Korea were still valid.

President Chun made the initiatives in new year policy statement to the National Assembly. This is the first time since 1967 that a Korean President has made his new year speech to Parliament and was intended to show that parliament is again a significant force and that democracy has been restored in South Korea.

The reunification formula calls for the organization of a consultative conference for national reunification. North and South participants of this body would draft consti-

tutions to be forged into a single draft for a unified democratic republic of Korea.

First step would be talks to arrange a summit between the two Koreas and then a provisional agreement of basic relations. Included in the provisions of this agreement, President Chun proposed recognition of each other's socio-political system, non-interference in internal affairs, an end to the arms race and military confrontation, the setting up of resident liaison missions in Seoul, free travel and communication between North and South, and respect for each other's international agreements until unification.

The last clause would counter the North's demand for the removal of United States troops from the South as a prerequisite for negotiations.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Drug arrests filmed for 'Police'

Arrests for suspected drug trafficking and possession during the pop festival in Reading were filmed for the latest programme in the television series *Police*, about the workings of the Thames Valley force (David Nicholson-Lord writes).

The programme, to be shown on BBC1 on Monday, shows the discovery of what drug squad detectives initially believed may have been £25,000 worth of drugs, possibly LSD, in a girl's plastic bag.

But tests proved that the detectives' belief was mistaken and the girl was finally given a suspended sentence for attempting to cheat her customers.

Personal appeal for nuns

A convent worried about its dwindling numbers is advertising in the personal columns of local newspapers for novices.

The Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, in Old London Road, Hastings, Sussex, feel a newspaper advertisement may encourage women and girls to think more about religion. Two women have responded so far.

Police forbid marches

A planned march through Halifax by members of the right-wing British Movement today has been banned by Calderdale Council on the advice of Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire.

Counter-demonstrations had been threatened by left-wing organizations, members of Halifax's immigrant community and the Anti-Nazi League. The police said the ban on all marches from 6am today had been recommended because of the possibility of public disorder.

Former boxing champion jailed

Tommy Glencross, the former British featherweight boxing champion jailed for 18 months yesterday for slashing a man's face in a fight in a Birmingham public house.

Glencross, aged 34, of Nursery Road, Newtown, Birmingham was convicted at an earlier Birmingham Crown Court hearing of malicious wounding. He had denied the charge. Sentence had been adjourned for medical reports.

Ferries cancelled

Sealink ferries to Guernsey were cancelled yesterday and flights from the island delayed as about 1,300 government workers took industrial action in support of a 10.7 per cent pay claim.

The Guernsey Government has offered them 8 per cent.

Scarman condemns ethnic schooling

By Sarah Bayliss, of "The Times Educational Supplement"

Lord Scarman delivered a strong condemnation of separate schools for the children of ethnic minorities yesterday.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Society of Education Officers in London, he said: "I would view with absolute horror the development of these schools. It would be terrible if there were separate Islamic or Hindu schools."

In answer to a question from Mr Edwin Owens, chief education officer of North Yorkshire, about the desirability of ethnic minorities being allowed to set up their own schools, Lord Scarman said his experience in Northern Ireland told him that one

cause of the troubles there was the separate education of Protestant and Roman Catholic children. "I do not want that to be mirrored in this country."

Lord Scarman, whose report on the Brixton riots was published last week, said that education officers had a big responsibility to try to unite British society. Some basic educational problems had to be tackled if summer riots were to be avoided in future.

The biggest responsibility was to ensure that children learnt in primary school to speak good English, as well as to read and write. He had met a number of employers whose willingness to employ young blacks was frustrated because the teenagers were inarticulate. Better liaison between schools and parents was also needed. From conversations with West Indian parents he knew that many did not feel welcome or at ease in schools.

"I am bound to say that some well meaning head teachers are simply not succeeding in getting parents involved."

Positive action was needed in secondary schools to help children to prepare for the competitiveness of the jobs market. Given the prospect of continued unemployment, schools should also train children how to use and enjoy their leisure time with more emphasis on art, music and sport. "Many of these rioters rioted from sheer damn boredom", he said.



Lord Scarman: More emphasis on leisure time.

CAMBRIDGE EXAM MAY BE EARLIER

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Cambridge University is considering moving the date of its entrance examination from the autumn term of the third year in the sixth form to the end of the spring term preceding A levels. It is hoped that the move will be of particular benefit to pupils in comprehensive schools. Oxford has no plans to follow suit.

The proposal, put forward by a working party of college admissions tutors, will be discussed by a meeting of all college representatives next Friday.

Fewer than half last year's successful applicants to Cambridge came from maintained schools.

The number of scholarships and exhibitions available at Oxford is to be reduced next year to no more than a quarter of each college's intake.

Congregation, representing all the academic staff at Oxford, has rejected by 511 votes to 439 a proposal that fees should no longer be paid to examiners or supervisors of graduate students.

proposal that the undergraduate School of Agricultural and Forest Sciences at Oxford should be closed was approved by 553 votes to 217.

APPEAL ON TV LEVY REJECTED

By Kenneth Gosling

A Report by the Committee on Welsh Affairs is commended in a government White Paper out today as a thorough and perceptive appraisal of the question of Welsh language broadcasting.

The Government takes issue, however, with a recommendation that interest payments on capital borrowed by television programme contractors should be allowed as relevant expenditure for levy purposes.

"The Government is aware," the White Paper says, "that the exclusion of interest paid from relevant expenditure can weigh heavily on those independent television companies with high capital borrowings; it is also aware of the committee's concern about the viability of the television programme contractor for Wales. It sees difficulty, however, in the committee's recommendation."

The Government saw no reason why an advantage, in terms of levy liability, should be conferred on companies preferring loan capital to equity shareholdings; moreover, to allow interest payments to count as relevant expenditure would allow considerable scope for levy avoidance.

Most Sunday papers talk business.

Only one has always made a separate issue of it.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The Sunday Times Business News. The supplement devoted entirely to the world of business.

In tomorrow's issue, "The end of the De Lorean dream?"

Tax rise for US delayed by White House

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Jan 22

President Reagan has delayed a decision on whether to double excise taxes on liquor and luxury items after reviewing public opinion sampling which showed strong opposition officials said.

Mr Reagan told Mr David Gergen, the White House Communications Director yesterday to deny widely circulated reports that he had approved temporary increases in taxes on cigarettes, liquor and other luxuries to raise an additional \$15,000m (£7,500m) in federal revenues in the 1983 financial year. Accordingly, Mr Gergen told reporters that the President had not yet made up his mind on several big policy decisions he expects to announce in his State of the Union message next Tuesday.

Instead, Mr Reagan has asked his policy advisers to produce new ways of narrowing a massive federal deficit expected to climb to \$100,000m in fiscal 1983.

The President planned to review the new proposals over the weekend at his Camp David retreat in Maryland, Mr Gergen said.

Mr Reagan's apparent change of mind on the excise tax proposals stemmed from his meetings and conversations with business and congressional leaders who strongly oppose them on the grounds that they hurt the working man, a senior official said. In addition, the sophisticated White House polling apparatus, which daily checks the pulse of

American opinion, showed strong public opposition to the taxes, White House officials disclosed.

Mr Reagan has been considering these limited tax increases as a means of both reducing the federal deficit and financing a controversial new programme transferring control of important social programmes to the revenue-starved states. This programme of "New Federalism" shifting revenues and responsibilities from Washington to state governments is expected to be a focal point of Mr Reagan's State of the Union message.

At present, however, it is not clear whether Mr Reagan can finance the transfer of some 40 programmes to the states without additional excise taxes, Administration officials said.

The President's reluctance to increase taxes is well known and has been repeated by him in press conferences and public statements. He agreed to consider limited tax increases only at the urging of key Republicans alarmed by the prospect of a mushrooming federal deficit.

The President is reported to have approved new spending cuts for fiscal 1983 of close to \$31,000m but this will not be enough to reduce the projected deficit appreciably.

At Camp David, Mr Reagan must decide whether the political consequences of increasing unpopular taxes to reduce the deficit are only slightly worth the risk.

Reagan embarrassed by press interview errors

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Jan 22

President Reagan has been involved in an embarrassing series of press interview errors which have caused him to be embarrassed by his own press interview errors.

White House spokesmen have tried to explain his statements and the President has defended an answer he gave on unemployment.

But his officials have had to admit that he got some of his statistics wrong, and an answer he gave on the Pope's support for United States measures taken over Poland has drawn an apparent rebuke from the Vatican.

Furthermore, the President's failure to reply directly when asked if he believed Mr Paul Volcker should resign as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board left spokesmen with the task of clarifying the position. The President had not meant to imply he was asking for a resignation.

The most marked error he made was his contention that rising unemployment was "a continuation of an increase that got under way" in the last months of the Carter administration.

In fact, unemployment declined from 7.6 per cent to 7.4 per cent during President Carter's last three months in office.

After the press conference a White House spokesman said Mr Reagan "mis-spoke" on unemployment, but next day, while saying he was

distressed by reports that he had mis-stated his figures the President defended a claim that "there are more people working than there were in 1980".

As in sanctions on Poland, he said he had received a letter from the Pope saying he "approves of what we've done so far". But the Vatican, in a statement interpreted as a mild rebuke, said that the support the Pope had expressed in a letter on January 4 in reply to two from President Reagan was "not of a political nature".

A spokesman said yesterday that the White House had made a good-faith effort to check facts about an Arizona programme to feed elderly people. At his conference Mr Reagan had praised it for cutting costs while doubling the number of people fed.

It transpired that people were working on the programme as volunteers because federal grants had been cut and the increase in the number being fed was a result of the closure of other government-sponsored facilities.

Mr Reagan asked at his conference that the Administration should not be judged by its mistakes, but commentators are increasingly drawing attention to his own slips of memory and fact.

Gibraltar's jail called grotesque

By David Cross

Prison conditions in Gibraltar's Moorish Castle are not to have improved much since it was built in the mid-fourteenth century by Abu al Hassan, the Moroccan monarch who captured the Rock from the Spaniards.

Not only the jail too cramped for the 25 or so prisoners it normally holds; the conditions are described as "grotesquely primitive" and the inmates as "zombie-like".

In a report just published in London under the title A Prison 1,000 years old, the Howard League for Penal Reform says a new prison should be built in the British colony urgently.

The report was compiled by Mrs Jane Bloom-Cooper, a board member of Holloway Prison and wife of Mr Bloom-Cooper, chairman of the league. Mrs Bloom-Cooper visited the prison last April with the approval of the Gibraltar authorities.

"The prisoners live exposed to the elements", she said. "In the absence of glass windows the seasonal wind can blow the rain and moisture right into the cells."

As there were no corridors, staff and inmates had to go out in all weathers even for food and the lavatories.

According to the report, prisoners and staff believe they have been abandoned by the Government and people of Gibraltar.

Mrs Bloom-Cooper submits "that the Government of Gibraltar is in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Council of Europe Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners".

Puzzling absence of Premier

Colombo — The whereabouts of Mr R. Premadasa, the Prime Minister, who went to San Francisco last month for gall bladder surgery and the reasons for the delay in his return are the subject of intense political speculation. (Our Correspondent writes).

Initial criticism of the large entourage he took with him has been overtaken by concern at his failure to return to Sri Lanka. His absence will only confirm that he has left San Francisco and is "re recuperating" while on the return journey to Colombo but it is not saying where.

France goes a head with retirement at sixty

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan 22

After introducing the 39-hour week, the French Government has decided in principle to lower the retirement age from 65 to 60, beginning in April next year. This was part of the election manifesto of President Mitterrand, and is one of a series of measures to be taken between now and the end of March which will directly benefit ordinary French men and women.

The decision on retirement at 60 with full pension, calculated on the basis of the salary of the 10 best years, will be published at the end of February.

One of the conditions is that those retiring must have contributed to the national pensions scheme for 37 and a half years, or not 39, or even 41, the Government contemplated at one time. The measure will affect about 600,000 workers who, at

EEC show disapproval of Ankara

From George Clark Strasbourg, Jan 22

The European Parliament yesterday voted to end its links with Turkish parliamentarians against the actions of the military regime in Ankara. Relations with Turkey through the joint EEC-Turkey committee will be suspended "until such time as the Turkish National Assembly has been freely elected in a secret ballot by direct universal suffrage and has taken office", according to the resolution carried yesterday.

The joint committee delegation is chaired by Herr Ludwig Fellmerhauer, a West German Socialist, and its 18 members include three conservatives and one British Labour MEP.

Carried by a narrow margin with only about a quarter of MEP's present, the resolution condemned the military regime's violence and in particular "the mock trial now under way in Istanbul of leaders of the democratic forces".

The European Democratic (Conservative) group, not at full strength, voted against every section of the resolution, which had been tabled by Communists and their allies. Few Christian Democrats were present to support the opposition and the Liberals abstained on the grounds that the political committee of Parliament is meeting next week to formulate an all-party declaration.

Besides asking the President of Parliament to take action to help 52 trade union leaders whose lives are in danger, the resolution reiterated Parliament's request to the Council of Ministers to suspend all Community financial aid to Turkey "until respect for human and civil rights and democratic liberties is once again assured".

Mr Adam Ferguson, MEP for Strathclyde, West, spokesman for the Conservatives, said: "This resolution was put forward precisely to throw sand in the eyes of everyone who is trying to expose the actions of the military regime in Poland." "In the foreign affairs debate yesterday speaker after speaker rejected attempts by left-wing parties to equate the actions of the military junta in Turkey with the Russian-directed military operations in Poland. The circumstances in which the military coups happened and the dangers they pose to world peace are totally different."

Antisemitic leanings in Polish organization Nationalists flourish under new regime

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 22

Under the benevolent gaze of Poland's Military Council, one of the few surviving political groupings, the Grunwald organization, is emerging from the shadows.

The group is dedicated to reviving and channeling nationalist emotions in Polish youth but it has also a sinister side. Even now, the Grunwald rhetoric echoes with references to "cosmopolitanism" and "Jewish influence" on Poland's affairs.

Why should the Grunwald group be protected by the Polish Government? Why does the Military Council ban or suspend organizations as diverse as Solidarity the free trade union organization, the Catholic Pax faction, the nationalist KPN and the independent student union NZS but allow Grunwald to survive?

Even the official trade union movement is restricted yet Grunwald, which even its friends admit has antisemitic leanings, is actively planning a book publishing venture and the establishment of a "library" for the conscious Polish youth.

Other antisemitic voices have been heard since the introduction of martial law five weeks ago. A Szczecin newspaper has published a particularly virulent anti-Jewish article and the official innuendo is unmistakable when reference is made to the non-Polishness of Solidarity advisers.

The answer seems to be embedded in the current factional struggles in the Communist Party (still called the United Workers Party); struggles that involve not just feuding between reformers and hardliners, liberal and dogmatic Marxists but also between groups that have radically different views about the future of the nation.

Grunwald's immunity stems from two causes. First, it is an instrument of one

faction that wants to foster a strong nationalist revival, harness those forces that once supported the KPN group (the Confederation for Independent Poland) and direct them into a safe pro-soviet corner.

Second, the Military Council cannot rely on the party, caught in the middle of a purge, to mobilize support for its policies. The Central Committee has yet to meet after five weeks of martial law and the grass roots are dominated by careerists, the reformists having either resigned (hundreds of thousands over the past year), been expelled (2,500 in the past three weeks) or simply decided to lay low.

The party is drained of vitality and devoid of purpose. It needs time to recover, lick and heal its wounds. But the Military Council has little time available and now seems to be looking to the Grunwald Group, not as a substitute for the party but as moulder of emotions. The Military Council claims its aim is national salvation. So does Grunwald.

The distinguishing feature of martial law has been the need to seek out scapegoats, real and imagined enemies. Show trials are a daily occurrence, driving home the message like an advertising slogan. No impunity, no corruption, no dissent, no labour unrest, no criticism of the Warsaw Pact.

Grunwald fits the bill well. It always had more enemies than members, but now Mr Bohdan Poreba, the chairman of Grunwald, believes that his time has come. "So far," he told *The Times* in an interview, "we have not been given the chance to speak openly. Now we will get that opportunity."

He admits, to friends in the Politburo, "There are some who like us, others who don't. Those who don't have

been badly informed. Now we have to prove that Grunwald is a useful, pure organization."

The group, during the 16 months of Solidarity's Poland, was always regarded as a relatively unimportant fringe group, its antisemitism a losing cause (there are only a few thousand Polish Jews left).

Mr Poreba estimates membership now at 250,000. This is almost certainly an exaggeration and other figures around 100,000 have been mentioned by Grunwald officials. Even so, that is a substantial number and now Grunwald has the only non-party-aligned platform in the country Mr Poreba's plans for expansion could well be realized.

Grunwald believes that Polish youth has been dangerously misled by Solidarity, that the country was heading for disaster before the imposition of martial law. Poland, says Mr Poreba, has been divided so many times, invaded and sliced up by the great powers, that inevitably nationalism took on a romantic rather than realistic form.

"As a nation the Poles are great," he said, paraphrasing a Polish poet, "but as a society they are inadequate, the result has been manipulation of the Polish national spirit by certain forces."

These forces were active in KOR, the Committee for Workers Self-Defence which advised Solidarity. The forces were active, too, in the postwar Stalinist era and have to be controlled.

Grunwald first made an impact in 1958 then, after a long period of inactivity, in 1981, securing its official registration soon afterwards; in vivid contrast to Solidarity that faced months of strike threats and industrial action before being officially recognised.

Speaking of Grunwald last

year, Mr Stefan Olszowski, still a powerful force in the Politburo, said: "It is sure to be registered. It defends the persecuted. It has valuable attributes."

Antisemitism is totally alien to us," Mr Poreba said. "But at the same time it is clear that Jews were far more active in the security services after the war than was warranted by their proportional presence in the population."

That is the thrust of Grunwald's creed: Poland, in order to understand fully its nationalism, and thus resist manipulation, has to know what happened during the Stalinist years. Several Poles of Jewish origin were then indeed in the security services and took part in the postwar purges.

"They, and they are still active, or their children believe they can take advantage of every crisis and push towards destroying the true Poland." That is the key to Grunwald's code, the system is under constant threat from the security service interrogators of the 1950s to Solidarity activists in the 1980s.

These are potentially dangerous and certainly unpleasant sentiments. But they serve the needs of the moment: martial law only makes sense if the system is under threat. Grunwald articulates the nature of that "threat". Therefore, Grunwald is allowed to function.

Grunwald, Mr Poreba says, is pro-worker, pro-Soviet but above all pro-Pole.

The question is not so much: Should Grunwald represent Polish nationalism? As Dr Domagala, a Poles want Grunwald? With its special platform it may attract more support. The evidence, though, is that Polish nationalism is, if anything, inclined to be anti-Russian rather than antisemitic.

Secret plans by Hitler to build a transcontinental railway, with engines and carriages the size of houses, have been unearthed by a West German railway official.

The double-deck trains were to have been 22ft 5ins high and 19ft 5ins wide, running on tracks with a gauge of 9ft 10ins.

The engines which were supposed to pull the trains at speeds of about 155mph were to be up to 133ft 7ins long and some had 52 axles. Inside, the carriages were to be fitted with the luxury and elegance of a transatlantic liner. The system was planned to traverse what Hitler hoped would one day

be his Greater German Reich from the River Volga to Paris from Hamburg to Istanbul.

They carried a "strictly secret" classification and were known only to a handful of engineers. The Third Reich fell while the plans were still on the drawing board.

They were discovered by accident by Herr Anton Joachimsthaler, a Munich railway official. He found further plans, drawings and information in the West German and East German state archives, among the papers of railway planners who had died and in conversations with those still alive.

In a book entitled *Die Breitspurbahn Hitlers* (Hitler's wide-gauge railway. Publishers: Eisenbahn-Kurier Verlag, Freiburg) he traces the progress of the great transport project from its inception, a suggestion by Fritz Todt, the predecessor of Albert Speer as Hitler's Armaments Minister.

After the first successes of Hitler's march into Russia, he proposed a wide-gauge railway to transport large quantities of goods from the Ukraine to Upper Silesia in what is now Poland. Within his megalomaniac imagination Hitler fancied himself as master builder and was already working on projects

for the larger German cities. He envisaged great stations for the new trains in which — Speer recalled — "the architecture and with it the power of the Reich was to overwhelm travellers, literally to slay them".

At first, his Reichsbahn engineers thought in terms of 13 or 16ft gauges before settling on 9ft 10ins. Even then the trains were twice as long and twice as wide as was normal with one carriage having the capacity of eight ordinary carriages.

The planned eight-carriage trains could carry 1,728 passengers against a normal 15-carriage train's 720 passengers.

The upper deck of the last carriage was to be an observation compartment.

There were plans for first-class passengers to have carpeted reception rooms, armchairs, dressing tables and showers. The 16ft high restaurant had the appearance of a huge hotel dining room, sleeping compartments were panelled with polished wood, dark for men light for women. East Europeans, however, who were considered by the Nazis to be crumpled 480 to a carriage served by only a tiny cafeteria.

The railway was supposed to be built when the war was over and the whole of Europe under Nazi domination but as it dragged on Hitler ordered the trains to be equipped with anti-aircraft guns and redesigned so they could carry heavy war material.

The 100 officials and 30 engineers involved in the project went on working even though they knew what Hitler refused to admit: that the war was lost and the trains would never be built. As long as they worked on the project, they were exempt from call-up into the Wehrmacht. For many, the project probably saved their lives.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Malaysians buy tanks from UK

Malaysia has signed a contract to buy British tanks and armoured personnel carriers worth £20m, the first in an informal ban on buying British goods went into effect last October, according to informed sources.

The Malaysian Defence Ministry, which insists on a secrecy clause in its contracts with manufacturers, declined comment but the order was for 25 Scorpion light tanks and 25 APCs, both manufactured by Alvis of Coventry.

The latest purchases are part of the expansion of Malaysia's armed forces. It was to win some of these orders that Mr John Nott, the British Defence Secretary, visited Malaysia last October.

Rawlings picks his top 16

Accra — A Cabinet of 16 civilians, to be known as secretaries, and given the urgent business of running a country on the verge of bankruptcy, was announced by Flight-Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, chairman of the ruling Provisional National Defence Council. The secretaries should regard themselves as servants of the people, he said.

Foreign Affairs has been given to Dr Obed Asamoah, former general secretary of the All People's Party, and Agriculture to Professor Bortey Doku, specialist at the University of Ghana, who will be responsible for reviving the declining cocoa industry. No appointment has yet been made for the important post of Finance and Economic Planning.

Beagle treaty renounced

Buenos Aires — Argentina yesterday renounced a treaty with Chile which committed both sides to settle peacefully a dispute over ownership of the islands of Picton, Lennox and Mueve and their potentially oil rich offshore waters at the southern tip of the Americas.

But the Argentine Government emphasised that it wanted papal mediation to continue in the dispute which concerns the border along the Beagle Channel, and said it was willing to draw up a new agreement with Chile for solving disputes.

Jesuit's second jail term

Vienno — Father Frantisek Lizna, a Czechoslovak Jesuit priest serving 20 months in prison, has been sentenced to a further seven months, emigre sources said. He was found guilty in Prague on Thursday of damaging the interests of the republic abroad by giving two West German priests a letter for his sister, who lives in Britain. It contained six issues of a forbidden religious magazine.

Pope in Africa

Rome — The Pope will visit Nigeria, Benin, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea from February 12 to 19, the Vatican announced. At his request his tour of West Africa is being brought forward three days. — Reuter.

in Africa



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What the Polish crisis revealed in Reagan's divided camp

by Henry Kissinger

Dr Kissinger, Secretary of State from 1973 to 1977, is the author of *The White House Years* and is Professor of International Relations at Georgetown University in Washington.



The Final Solution in action: a small frightened boy is forced to march under German guns with other Jews from the Warsaw ghetto to an unknown fate in 1943. This is regarded as one of the most telling photographs of the Second World War

The day the Nazis settled for mass murder

Martin Gilbert reconstructs a meeting of senior civil servants in Germany 40 years ago: they had gathered to discuss the European Jewish question...

Forty years ago this week occurred one of the most bizarre and ultimately evil events of the Second World War. It took place in a villa on the shore of a quiet lake, the Wannsee, in a smart suburb of Berlin. Those who gathered there — in a building that before the war had been the international headquarters of Interpol — were for the most part bureaucrats. They came from each of the main ministries of the Reich: 15 senior civil servants representing, among others, the Justice Ministry, the Foreign Office, the Ministry for the Eastern Territories, the office for the Four-Year Plan, and Hitler's Chancellery itself.

The meeting should have taken place two weeks before Christmas. But in the upheavals after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, it had been postponed. Now there was to be no more delay. The convenor of the meeting, SS Obergruppenführer Reinhard Heydrich, Chief of the Security Police, opened the proceedings with the announcement that he had been appointed "plenipotentiary" for the preparation of what he referred to as the "Final solution of the European Jewish question". The meeting had been called to ensure that all agencies concerned in this final solution would work together to follow the same policy.

Previously, Heydrich explained, the "solution" had been seen in emigration. Later this had changed to expulsion. Now these actions were to be regarded "only as provisional options". New experience was being gathered, he said, which would be of major significance for that final solution.

Although he did not say so, Heydrich had received a report of that new experience

from his dutiful subordinate, Adolf Eichmann, who early in December had visited a remote wood in German-occupied Poland where Jews, forced into an enclosed truck, were then driven off towards a clearing and gassed by the truck's exhaust system. By the time the clearing was reached, only corpses remained.

Eichmann had witnessed one such gassing. It had turned his stomach, and he declined an offer to see a second. But of the effectiveness of the method he was left in no doubt. Berlin now had its new "experience" on which to build — and to destroy.

The civil servants listened as Heydrich explained to them the scale of the problem. Using statistics prepared by Eichmann, Heydrich read out the number of Jews who would be "affected" by the final solution. In Germany and Austria, a total of 1,318,000 Jews remained, despite the emigration of more than half German Jewry before 1939 (many thousands of them to Britain). The Lithuanian figure was a low 34,000, as more than 200,000 Lithuanian Jews had already been murdered in their towns and villages during the previous summer by the notorious *Einsatzgruppen* killing squads which had followed the German army in its advance into Russia.

Some figures depended on the willingness of satellite governments to deport Jews to Germany. Thus the 48,000 Bulgarian Jews on the list were saved by the courage of the Bulgarian King and of the Bulgarian government, which refused to allow them to be deported. That refusal had been encouraged by the godfather of the King's children, a Catholic diplomat,

Cardinal Roncalli — later Pope John XXIII.

The 5,000 Jews of Denmark were saved when the Danish King and people smuggled them — on the very eve of their intended deportation — in small boats across the sea to neutral Sweden.

As envisaged at Wannsee, the Final Solution was not to be confined to countries inside the Nazi sphere. Even neutral countries, and countries as yet unconquered, were on Eichmann's meticulous list, among them the 4,000 Jews of the neutral Irish Republic. And there was the ominous line: "England... 330,000".

In his survey, Heydrich warned against the danger of the survival of the strongest among the Jews. If allowed to remain, these individuals would become "the germ cell of a new Jewish renewal". They must therefore be "appropriately dealt with".

Even in translation, the euphemisms and understatement have a sinister chill about them. The danger, as Heydrich saw it, lay in local reluctance to help the Nazis in their task. Hungary was seen as an obstacle, and indeed for more than two years the Hungarian authorities (headed by the Regent, Admiral Horthy) refused to allow deportations until a German military occupation forced them to comply.

The same obstacles occurred in Italy, where Mussolini not only refused deportation but gave refuge to Jews fleeing from more threatened lands. But within a few days of Mussolini's overthrow in October 1943, the deportations began under direct German supervision.

He told the meeting, "the rounding up of Jews for

evacuation can in all probability take place without great difficulties", whether in the occupied or Vichy zones. In the event, nearly 1,000 Jews were rounded up and deported every week, for more than 80 consecutive weeks, with the support of the local French police. But even this rate of deportation fell far below the Wannsee target because thousands of Jews were hidden by their fellow Frenchmen or given refuge in convents and monasteries.

As it drew to its close, the discussion at Wannsee moved on from Jews to half-Jews. For those with only one Jewish parent, a different solution was envisaged: sterilization. This was to encompass even those with one Jewish grandparent if the individual concerned showed an "especially unfavourable appearance in racial terms". Such a person would be marked out for sterilization "on the strength of his exterior alone".

One of the officials present pointed out, with grim humour, that extensive use could be made of sterilization since the half-Jews, "when confronted with the choice of being evacuated or sterilized, would prefer to submit to sterilization".

Those evacuation plans were now to be put into effect, and, over a two-year period, several million Jews were to be deported and then gassed on arrival at one of the six death camps set up especially for the purpose in German-occupied Poland.

The lakeside meeting was at an end; the participants broke up for drinks before returning to Berlin and to their desks. In this way, the destruction of European Jewry was begun.

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Geoffrey Smith

How the Tories could swing it their way

The one that will come nearest to doing so, though, is not unemployment, but real purchasing power in the run-up to an election.

The only way that the Conservatives could possibly be reconciled to the hardship of the past three years, with a Government that has specialized in tough talk in the depth of a recession, is for the belief to dawn that there may after all be something to show for the misery. Mrs Thatcher has always presented her strategy as an unpleasant but necessary experience that is required to put to British economy in a condition to compete effectively, and thereby to provide secure jobs, in a harsh world. Only if there seems to be some evidence that her claim is coming true will the Conservatives have any ammunition with which to fight the election.

But if they do have this ammunition, the precise level of unemployment will matter less in strictly electoral terms than may appear likely today. Even with three million out of work only a relatively small minority of families are themselves suffering from unemployment. It arouses such widespread feeling now partly from a proper sense of social sympathy, but also because to many of those still employed it symbolizes the general hardship of today and the fear of tomorrow. How many of those in work

this year fear that they will not be next year?

But things would begin to look rather different once the level of unemployment had started to fall and most people were able to buy more with the money in their pockets. For those in work unemployment would then be a claim on their social conscience rather than a nagging cause of personal anxiety. It will not be necessary therefore for an economic improvement to have a dramatic effect on the unemployment figures before the Conservatives could hope to secure the electoral benefit. What will be critical for them is that there should be a general impression that happy days are on the way.

So far as the Labour Party is concerned all that any good Conservative can do is to pray that it may maintain its form. Conservatives cannot induce Labour to behave in such a way as to appear unacceptable as a governing party: they can simply make the most of the presents that Labour offers. Had Mr Tony Benn been elected deputy leader, that would have made the point for the Conservatives more effectively than anything they could say. But as it is, despite the promises that peace has broken out in the party, Labour seems likely to present a sufficiently inviting target.

It will not, however, be the only alternative to another term of Tory rule. Indeed, the Conservatives face the

paradox that the less acceptable Labour seems, the more support will flow to the Social Democrats and the more credible the alliance will appear. It was understandable, therefore, that the new chairman of the Conservative Party, Mr Cecil Parkinson, should have declared on Wednesday that it would be premature to write off the Labour Party: the Conservatives need it to be strong enough to act as a convincing bogey.

It will not be so easy to create a bogey out of the SDP. Essentially the Conservatives have a choice between portraying it as a second Labour Party, clad in more attractive clothes but still just as much of a threat, or as a ragbag of party without any clear focus or identity. Up to now most Conservatives have seemed to prefer the first course, but the trouble is that Mr Parkinson and his senior colleagues do not really look very threatening. It is also very difficult to represent them as stalking horses of Marxism when they broke away from Labour in protest against its leftward drift.

Mr Parkinson was more subtle. He attacked the SDP on two grounds: that they might draw off sufficient votes to let in a left-wing Labour government; and that they were not credible as politicians: "We will be attacking their 'magic circle' economics. It's all going to be done by mirrors or magic".

This is the line that I would expect to see developed between now and the election. If unemployment starts to fall, if other economic signals turn to green, if Labour continues to present a dispiriting face, the outcome is likely to depend upon how successful the Conservatives are in presenting the SDP as the fuzzy party — very nice, maybe, but not a serious proposition to run the country. That may seem a lot of ifs, but then there always are at every election.



into opening positions that look like (and sometimes are) complete reversals, causing doubt on its resolve; and once it is engaged in talks, these negotiating positions turn into ends in themselves, regardless of content.

US rhetoric and strategy must be brought into balance. The need is for a programme that avoids the twin dangers of abandoning the peace issue to adversaries without turning negotiation into a form of self-blackmail. In the long run, America serves the cause of peace best by precision, strict insistence on reciprocity and a view of the world respectful of legitimate Soviet concerns.

A decade or so ago, when East-West trade, technology transfer and financial relations began to develop, many believed that economic ties could become an instrument — among others — for moderating Soviet conduct. In a crisis, it was thought, the fear of losing markets or access to raw materials, western technical innovations or bank credits would produce Soviet caution. But this assumption presupposed a western willingness to use its economic strength in the service of an overall strategy. That clearly has not happened.

On the contrary, so many western nations have let themselves become dependent on Soviet trade that a trade cut-off is more likely to turn into a Soviet weapon against the West. American farmers this year take satisfaction in the sale of 23 million

tons of food to the Soviet Union. But what will happen when all plantings and America's entire agricultural economy become permanently geared to this level of Soviet imports? Who then has the stronger negotiating position?

Similarly, western banks have been profligate in extending credit to Poland and other East block countries — and free of considerations of state policy in doing so. The result is that they will be exposed to there is any let-up in the breakneck pace of private lending to the East.

In 1976, the United States Government recommended to a ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development an urgent study to examine the implications and risks of East-West trade and credits — and the need for greater western coordination regarding them. The effort has since languished. As a result, there are no agreed political criteria today for the management of East-West trade.

The two superpowers compete fiercely to fulfill Lenin's dictum that the capitalists would in time fight over the privilege of selling the rope they would be hanged with. There is an urgent need to establish ground rules to guide East-West trade and finance. In setting up new National Security Council procedures in the White House, Judge Clark will want to review how America came to waste crucial weeks on essentially rhetorical exercises; determine which options were put forward primarily to stall for time, and above all expose the strategic assumptions that underlay the conflicting theories and proposals for presidential attention. He will want to make sure that, in the future, what reaches the Oval Office are the real choices.

But he must go beyond that. He must ensure that the administration's foreign policy philosophy is clarified. For better or worse, a serious foreign policy requires a comprehensive conceptual concept; without it, pronouncements are exercises in rhetoric, and actions are driven by short-term tactical considerations without coherence or sense of direction. The policy-making process must be organized by efficient procedures. But, more importantly it must be organized by a basic strategy.

Events have conspired in recent years to erode the foreign policy consensus in America and to create fault lines of opinion that cut across all strategic questions. The administration seems to me to be divided between a new isolationism and traditional Atlanticism; between those who regard as inevitable the apocalyptic showdown with the Soviet Union and those who think that managing the competition will remain a permanent feature of US foreign policy — with a gradual erosion of the Soviet system but no clear-cut terminal point; between those who regard trade, technology and finance as matters of private concern, subject only to pure market considerations, and those who see economic relationships, particularly with the communist world, as so centrally important to the future of both the West and the East as to be an inherent part of the United States' public policy.

The strains generated by the competition between these contending points of view within the administration have been all too evident in the weeks following the repression in Poland. They will tug at policy in the months to come as well, until the administration moves to resolve them and in the process designs a longer-term, fully rounded concept of US strategy, resources and broader objectives in the world.

Until these issues are settled, it will be impossible even for the wisest of leaders to make more than momentary sense from the range of options presented to him by his staff each day for decision.

If we master these issues and in the process design a coherent policy, the Polish crisis will in the end generate a lasting benefit. If we fail, we shall remember these months not only with shame but as a decisive turning point in western history.

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Concluded

Asa Briggs at full steam

Had it not been for the steam engine, Karl Marx would never have got off the ground, and Mr Tony Benn would probably have remained an obscure and harmless aristocrat.

James Watt has a lot to answer for. His improvement of Newcomen's crude Cornish mine pumping engine into the machine that powered the Industrial Revolution created a social change unparalleled by any other technology, before or since, with the possible exception of the wheel. Steam, which triggers such a romantic response in an army of weekend enthusiasts, now enjoys the benefit of scrutiny by one of our foremost social historians, Asa Briggs.

With *The Power of Steam*, a lavishly illustrated cultural history of the first great engine, Lord Briggs enters an area of publishing already at bursting pressure from enough remastered titles to fuel a Lancashire boiler. His purpose, however, is not to rehash the story of steam in the early age of Atlantic liners and the Great Western Railway, but to define the social and cultural phenomenon that took us from water wheels to Windscale.

"I am not a steam enthusiast; rather I try to understand why there is such a thing as steam enthusiasm," he told me. "I am just as interested in the steam en-



The great generator George Stephenson in a wicker chair, picture of about 1880

courtesy of steam engines that had much to do with binding them together and make them aware of themselves.

"Steam was the last technology that most people felt they could understand," Lord Briggs told me. "Far fewer people understood, or were fascinated by, electricity, and as for nuclear energy it is quite incomprehensible to most people, including many who work in it."

Although Lord Briggs is no train-spotter, he has vivid memories of a steam-clouded childhood in Keighley, Yorkshire, where he lived five minutes from the station and from the vast textile engineering works of Prince Smith, an enormous industrial enterprise built entirely on the power of steam.

Lord Briggs, now aged 60, himself generates as much energy as three steam turbines. Half an hour before his wedding in 1925, he said, from the ante-room in which the bridegroom was supposed to be adjusting his dress came the tap of a typewriter finishing a book review for the *New Statesman*.

He left Sussex University in 1976, after 10 years as the vice-chancellor, in which he helped to make the new fashionable universities in Britain. "People imagine that in those days we were only interested in a vague kind of

radicalism at Sussex. But I have always been very keen on technological education, and I am proud to have been responsible for establishing a school of applied sciences at Sussex.

His scope for innovation is rather less in the past he has held since 1976 — Provost of Worcester College, Oxford — although he is clearly pleased that the college now numbers two engineers among its fellows.

After the administrative burden of running a trendy university, the relative tranquillity of Worcester now gives him much time to write. He will shortly produce a one-volume version of his gargantuan, one million word, four-volume *History of Broadcasting*, which itself will in time spawn a fifth tome.

"I have become more interested in society in culture, than in society and economics. I am interested in the cultural expression of the society, and in getting at the variety of local experience. Historians should never take the unity of England for granted; they should explain why England is integrated." Such an approach is only to be expected from a high-pressure, triple-expansion, steam-driven Yorkshireman.

Alan Hamilton

The Power of Steam by Asa Briggs is published on Monday by Michael Joseph at £10.50.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

DR KISSINGER'S JOLT

Dr. Henry Kissinger, in articles in the *New York Times* and *The Times*, has been making hawkish noises about the Western response to Poland. They repay careful reading. Dr. Kissinger, despite the caricature of him which survives from the Nixon-Kissinger days, is not a conventional hawk and what he is advocating is not a reflex headline response to the Polish crisis. He and Richard Nixon invented detente with the Soviet Union and with China but they also invented linkage, the insistence that goodwill was not enough. They insisted that progress on trade would depend on progress on arms control, that the minutiae of diplomacy had to be timed to reciprocal concessions. Detente, in short, was not the appeasement that the extreme right wing in President Reagan's party says it was.

There is piquancy, therefore, in seeing Dr Kissinger hailed as a spokesman for the hawks. He certainly makes some very severe criticisms of the lack of direction in the Western response. It is hard to reconcile the assertion that the Soviet Union is to blame for the continued presence of the United States in the Madrid Conference on the very Helsinki arrangements that are being violated in Poland. Mr Kissinger has heard for his part in cutting his meeting with Mr Gromyko from two days to one and seeking to confine the agenda to Poland. It is schizophrenic of the United States to keep feeding the Soviet Union with grain while urging the Europeans, for instance, not to go ahead with the proposed gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe.

There has indeed been an incoherence about the response from the West and a dissonance between American rhetoric and American actions. A defence can be made for the Western reactions. More importantly, Henry Kissinger's analysis

does not quite carry him to the conclusions his own rhetoric invites. The defence for the immediate nature of the Western response is that during the 18 months of the Polish crisis the Western nations prepared themselves for a number of possible developments but they concentrated on an out-right Soviet invasion. When, instead, the crisis took the form of a national Polish military Government, with the Communist Party pushed on one side, a certain prudence was not only inevitable but wise. It was not at all obvious from the beginning, and many people would argue that it remains unclear, whether General Jaruzelski was acting in what he thought to be the best interests of Poland, to prevent an invasion, or acting as a tool of the Soviet Union.

This uncertainty did not prevent the allies condemning martial law and all it entailed and nor should it. The real question is how far to make the Soviet Union itself suffer by sanctions and how to take economic action against Poland which does not make the General more of a Soviet prisoner than he is or inflict more suffering on the Polish people. The cessation of diplomatic intercourse, which Dr Kissinger advocates, will carry little risk and rather more conviction than what has occurred. He is surely right on this point. But he does not say how far he would go to cut off the Soviet Union itself by economic sanctions and he does not address himself to the very difficult question of how a graduated economic response from the West might be organized and administered.

It is questionable whether a total moratorium in East-West relations would have enforced a return to the days of reform in Poland. That at any rate appears to be the view of the Polish hierarchy to which the West should pay due heed in view of the church's well-founded claim to be the true representative of the Polish

nation. Furthermore, an all-out response would have left nothing in reserve in the event of direct Soviet aggression.

If a graduated response is right, however, it must be one which is universally agreed and convincingly applied by the allies. The aims are clear enough. They should include the release of the many thousands detained under martial law of whom one is the Solidarity leader, Lech Walesa; the resumption of the dialogue between the authorities, Solidarity and the church; and the new progress towards the kind of economic reforms which the General initially promised to implement and which alone can make Poland solvent. But the means to achieve these ends cannot be left to isolated bankers talking to each other when they consider re-scheduling the Polish debt. It is an extraordinary comment on Western planning that the aid to Poland was given by banks without any clear idea among Governments about what it was hoped to achieve and what the response would be if it were default.

Underlying these confusions is an uncertainty about the nature of the Soviet Union, its relations with its East European satellites, and the leadership of the Atlantic alliance. No tactics will serve unless they are based on clear views of these matters and of the consequences they impose for defence and diplomacy.

Dr Kissinger identifies divergences within the American administration, but they are evident in more muted form throughout Europe. There is a need for thought and for leadership. Chancellor Schmidt has been to Washington to talk to President Reagan. But the sooner the leaders meet together, with properly prepared analyses, and option papers, the better. Yesterday it was Afghanistan. Today it is Poland. The West must concert its unity. Improvisation and eloquence are not enough.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT FOR TEACHERS

New ideas cascade from the judicial benches these days. No sooner has the concept of contributory negligence in the criminal law been created and given the thumbs down than the concept of statistical fatalism for civil plaintiffs is launched in its stead. It seems that some judges and magistrates are taking to heart all too seriously the Home Secretary's concern about prison overcrowding. The remarks of a magistrate on the case of the Newington Green teacher allegedly assaulted by a parent in her classroom embody a novel principle of forensic reasoning which offers wide scope for development.

The problem of assaults in school has changed since the days of Mr Creakle and Mr Squeers. For teachers in the past, it was more a matter of handing it out than learning to take it, though in Mr Squeers's case the boot was not wholly on the one foot ("MET-A-FUR, a metaphor, Smeke, and when you've learnt to spell it you can take it away and polish it"). Without commenting on the facts of the present case, it is true that teachers in state schools today are in general less likely to assault than they are to be assaulted. It is a real

occupational hazard, as the teachers' unions often point out.

The magistrate this week was fortunate enough to have the statistics at his fingertips. The incidence of assaults on teachers in primary schools between Clissold Park and the Balls Pond Road is, it appears, three per teacher per decade. He is reported to have added that the victim should get used to the prospect, and that it was a waste of public money to bring a case to court in such circumstances. The teacher herself may or may not have known the figures quite so precisely. But given that the broad dangers were well-known, anybody who incurred them could be said to be guilty of a sort of contributory negligence. A bench (this bench, at least) might be disposed to take a particularly serious view of this in the case of a teacher, who, as a responsible person in a position of trust, owed a duty of care.

The principle can be extended. In the past, the courts have only had to consider whether an alleged crime or tort took place or not; henceforth they should also ask themselves whether, if it did, it was above or below the statistical average for events

of that kind. If a teacher has not reached her quota, then *de minimis non curat lex*. Once she passes her quota, a case might be worth bringing, though obviously it would then be open to the assailant to plead that he or she was still below his or her personal quota. Activity in the courts would tend to bunch towards the end of the year as quotas became exhausted. Some system of rollover of entitlements from one year to the next, might help to reduce this effect.

The public insistently demands action on crime rates, and the advantage of the Islington principle is that it addresses itself to crime rates rather than individual crimes. But the tyranny of the average should not be allowed to go too far. According to the headmaster of the school in question, it had been free of assaults for ten years, prior to the alleged incident of last December. It is a glaring statistical anomaly. But it would be well to warn the Islington bench that this persistent failure to meet quotas does not in itself warrant any corrective action, either by way of rewards to individuals seeking to bring the school in line, or fines on their victims.

Day of the Vow

From the Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa
Sir, The article by Michael Hornsby (December 16), on the South African Day of the Vow concerning the significance of that day caused South Africans who read it deep distress.

It is historical fact that the Voortrekkers (pioneers) who trekked inland in search of freedom strove to reach agreement and to live in harmony with the black nations in whose territory they moved. In fact, it was while negotiating land rights with the Zulu King Dingaan that the Trekker leader Retief and his party of 70 plus 30 Coloured outriders were overwhelmed and murdered. Subsequently the Zulu impi set upon the scattered and vulnerable laagers (encampments) and killed nearly 300 as well as more than 200 Coloured servants, including many women and children.

Only then did the Voortrekkers send a party of some 470 under Commandant-General Pretorius, reinforced by British settlers and their Bantu followers, against Dingaan, whose Zulu force of 12,500 attacked the Voortrekker laager at the Battle of Blood River, but were beaten off with heavy losses.

The Voortrekkers, including the British and their followers, certainly solemnly vowed to God before the battle that: If He with His protection will be with us and deliver our enemies into our hands, we shall ever keep this day and date as a day of thanksgiving

and a Sabbath. We shall raise a temple, where I shall please Him, unto His glory, and our children to share with us therein; also their children and their children's children. For the honour of His name will thereby be glorified that the renown and honour of victory shall be given unto Him.

It is not unusual to pray on such occasions. Lord Nelson did so before the Battle of Trafalgar, as did the British before the Battle of Ulundi in 1839 which turned the tide against the Zulus, leading to the subsequent destruction of the Zulu nation. It is inconceivable that anyone should denigrate Lord Nelson's noble prayer or describe the British victory at Trafalgar as a senseless massacre of the French.

Just over two years ago, the South African Prime Minister, the Hon P. W. Botha, said that the Day of the Vow was not a symbol of Afrikaner superiority or a triumph of White over Black, but the willingness of the Afrikaner to kneel before God. A year later Mr Botha said the Battle of Blood River had not been an organised racial incident as the Afrikaner and Zulu nations had been able to make peace afterwards.

If the South African Government's policy of striving for a strong, self-sufficient country in which all its peoples can share in its dynamic development and the bounty this provides is indicative of the mental frontier resulting from the laager's protective circle, then so be it.

Yours etc.,
MARALIS STEYN,
South African Embassy, WC2.
January 14.

Ulster teacher training

From Mr Anthony Bailey
Sir, Canon Walsh, of St. Malachy's College, Belfast, demands (January 19) that the two main recommendations of the Chilver review body on teacher education in Northern Ireland be set aside because they will undermine the rights of Catholic schools in Ulster to have teachers fully trained in Catholic teacher-training colleges.

A number of Catholics and Protestants I have met while visiting Northern Ireland are certain that one of the chief factors perpetuating conflict there is that Ulster people are trained as little Catholics and little Protestants, proud to be on one side, looking down on the other, when what they mostly are, of course, are men and women, born on the island of Ireland, British subjects, sharing many of the same desires, needs, and conditions of life.

Surely what Northern Ireland requires is less so-called religious education, more teaching that will create a non-sectarian society. And if there is to be peace in Ulster in the years to come, government review bodies must work for schools and teachers that actively promote such an end.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY BAILEY,
63 Royal Hill,
Greenwich, SE10.
January 19.

A new way forward with home buying

From the Director of the Low Pay Unit

Sir, Few would disagree with your call (leading article, January 19) for more help to first-time home buyers. However, that objective may be sadly frustrated if your demand for further tax concessions to owner-occupied housing were to be met.

Over the years such concessions have grown, "like Topsy" and are now substantial. Stamp duty relief, which you would like to see raised, is indeed the smallest, costing only £250m in 1980-81. But mortgage interest relief cost almost £2,000m in that year — a doubling in the revenue forgone in one year alone. This is in addition to the exemption of owner-occupied housing from the old Schedule A tax on its rental value.

Some estimates suggest this exemption now costs, in revenue forgone, about the same as mortgage relief itself. Capital gains tax exemption is more expensive, representing an estimated revenue loss of £2,400m in 1980-81.

This complex structure — some might describe it as a "shanty-town" — of tax reliefs for owner-occupiers is positively harmful to those trying to become homeowners for the first time. Since the supply of housing is somewhat inflexible, especially in a recession when the construction industry suffers badly, the provision of tax subsidies serves merely to push up house prices.

The only people to gain are those who owned a house before the concessions were introduced or increased — and first-time buyers are not amongst them. While encouraging under-occupation, as people clamour up the housing ladder to take advantage of the tax reliefs, the bottom rung of that ladder is lifted further out of reach of those at the bottom.

It is not only first-time buyers who lose by the present system: the regressive effects of tax-

subsidies are well documented; they also push up marginal tax rates (even for that half of the household population who do not own their homes) creating economic distortions; and they generate distortions in investment as funds are poured into this part of the housing sector where the tax subsidies are most generous.

This is not to argue that the state should not subsidise owner-occupation, but what is needed is that the state should not use tax subsidies added in an ad hoc way. If the aim is to help first-time buyers the relief should be concentrated on this group. This would imply reduction in the relief against capital gains and removal of some of the thousands of loopholes in capital transfer tax, which are no help at all to new homeowners.

A new form of non-transferable mortgage interest relief is needed. Each taxpayer should be entitled to relief (at the standard rate) of up to £25,000 (perhaps more) borrowed, but this allowance should not be renewable every time the taxpayer moves.

Compared with reforms of this type, further relief from stamp duty would do little for first-time buyers. The Treasury's willingness to consider such concessions at this time is itself surprising. Public-sector housing subsidies have taken more than the fair share of public spending cuts. Yet the concessions have precisely the same effect on the Government's borrowing requirement as direct cash subsidies.

If there is to be an increase in purely spending, there must surely be better ways to use it than in further concessions on stamp duty.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS POND,
Director,
Low Pay Unit,
9 Poland Street, W1.
January 19.

Quitting the Tories

From Dr R. M. Marquis

Sir, How sad to read in *The Times* (January 21) the travesty of John Grigg's linkage between the last day of the Conservative Party and the last day of the Tory Party. Eden's calculated deception of his nation and the world at the time of Suez with the honourable determination of Margaret Thatcher to help her nation earn its status of a great power are two worlds apart.

Yours,
R. M. MARQUIS,
Park House,
Balsham,
Cambridge.
January 21.

Incidentally, was Mr Grigg ever a Tory or the party of a Church and Queen?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STOKES,
House of Commons.
January 21.

Guildford candidature

From Mr Charles St. George

Sir, According to your report of January 14 I am apparently "sick as a parrot" at the prospect of standing down in favour of the SDP in Guildford, following the agreement reached between Liberal and SDP negotiators on the distribution of parliamentary seats in Surrey. This is not an accurate description of my feelings.

Naturally I am very disappointed at being asked to stand down, not only for myself but for the Liberal Party. I have given every support and encouragement over the past two years. If it is their wish, expressed in general meeting, that I should stand down in the long-term interests of the Alliance then I will do so gladly.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES ST. GEORGE,
Guildford District Liberal Association,
Flat 1,
12 Millmead Terrace,
Guildford, Surrey.

In office

From Lady Lorna Howard

Sir, It appeals to me to read in the newspapers the constant iteration of the opposition parties, especially the Society of Disgruntled Politicians who have given every support and encouragement over the past two years. If it is their wish, expressed in general meeting, that I should stand down in the long-term interests of the Alliance then I will do so gladly.

My father, the late Stanley Baldwin always said: "A government is not in power; it is in office, but there by the will of the people".

Power is a corrupting thought.
Yours sincerely,
LORNA STANLEY HOWARD,
8 Sandwich Street, WC1.
January 18.

Official advice

From the Secretary of State for the Environment

Sir, The Editorial Director of Penguin Books, referring (January 15) to the fake *Diary of a Farmer's Wife*, 1796-1797, speaks of "the uncertainty about the origins of the material" that forms the basis of the book and asserts that "Penguin Books certainly do not wish to be seen to make any false claims for books that we publish".

Perhaps he will inform us whether there is any uncertainty about the fact that a relative of Mrs Preston (who forged the "Diary" in or shortly before 1937) successfully claimed a copyright fee for the book on the grounds that it was Mrs Preston's sole creation?

Much more serious, as Mr Tearable points out in his letter to you (January 15) is the silence of the BBC on the matter and the failure to publish letters pointing out the deception in *Radio Times*.

Yours faithfully,
NIKOLAI TOLSTOY,
Court Close,
Southmoor,
Abingdon,
Berkshire.
January 17.

Beating time

From Mr Alexander Schouvaloff

Sir, Your fascinating list of anniversaries (January 11) included that of Igor Stravinsky on June 17. He was actually born on June 5, 1882, Russian style. From 1901 the difference between the Julian and Gregorian calendars increased by one day and so Stravinsky used to say that eventually he would be considered to have been born after his grandchildren.

Yours faithfully,
ALEXANDER SCHOUVALOFF,
59 Lyndhurst Grove, SE15.
January 12.

Roman view of Anglican orders

From the Bishop of Aberdeen

Sir, If a Catholic bishop from beyond the confines of England may comment upon a matter which is wider than the English scene, may I point out an error in your editorial (January 18) in regard to *Apostolicus Curae* and the judgment that Anglican orders were null and void.

The judgment at that time was not concerned with the rite or ordinal then in use in the ordaining of bishops (and priests) within the Anglican Communion. By then it was largely accepted that the ordinal was capable of fulfilling the intention of the (Catholic) Church when ordaining bishops. It was the defect of form in the Edwardine ordinal that was considered, and not just in itself but as expressing the mind of the reformers in respect of ordination. The mind of the argument was expressed like this in the Bull:

But if, on the contrary, the rite is changed with the manifest purpose of introducing another rite which is not accepted by the Church, and of changing what in fact the Church does and by Christ's institution belongs to the nature of the sacrament, then it is evident, not only that the intention necessary for a sacrament is lacking, but even that an intention is present which is adverse to and incompatible with the sacrament.

It is not the rite that is "null and void" but Catholic orders in England. If anything should be an embarrassment to Catholics, Roman and Anglican, it is not *Apostolicus Curae* but the Edwardine ordinal, which manifestly set out, and achieved, the dismemberment of the Church in England from the Ecclesia Catholica.

Personally I would feel no need to hurry or circumvent *Apostolicus Curae*. At the time when the Curia was focused on the legitimacy and validity of orders as stemming from and assuring apostolic succession it clarified the issues, and made a judgment wholly relevant in the context. In narrow field of sacramental theology it will be relevant and useful for study.

We now see the heart of the matter differently, perhaps because our ecclesiology is more profound. We are concerned with ecclesial communion, rather than sacramental communion (which is basically why we want to shift the argument even today from the question of sacramental intercommunion). The validity and legitimacy of orders has more to do with ecclesial communion than with the question

whether or not the sacrament of the Mass is effected.

In the Catholic tradition the question of the papacy is not peripheral to the question, and it is surely a measure of Anglican catholicity that it is seen to be central and crucial in England today, and a cause for hope among Christians everywhere.

Yours sincerely,
MARIO CONTI,
Bishop of Aberdeen,
156 King's Gate, Aberdeen.
January 19.

From Father Deryck Henshall, SJ
Sir, It is appropriate that one so ecumenically minded as the Bishop of Norwich should have replied in your columns (January 16) to John Clark, and that he should have insisted that "fundamental Christian issues are at stake", and not just courtesy between Christians, important though this is and not only on the occasion of a papal visit.

That the Pope, however, is "the essential human channel by which Divine grace flows to all Christians" is not a doctrine of the Catholic and Roman Church. The Pope's office is *Ministerial*. He has somewhat the same relation to the universal Church as the bishop has to his diocese. But Dr Wood is quite right in saying that "neither an earthly Pope nor the Virgin Mary herself can stand between Christ and His Church". No Roman Catholic would disagree.

There is still obviously much that we need to learn (and unlearn) about one another's beliefs; and this is the main reason why there can be no immediate prospect of union between Rome and the reformed churches of this land. This does not mean however that those churches should not proceed along the path of covenanting, even though it be upon principles unacceptable — for the present at any rate — to the magisterium of the Roman Church. The fact that the local hierarchy of that church has felt obliged to stress. Nevertheless the Church of England is not to be identified with the extreme Anglo-Catholic party or with its view of apostolic succession.

The whole question of the ministry is one that looms increasingly, and in this context *Apostolicus Curae* can hardly be overlooked. Nor should it be.

Yours faithfully,
DERYCK HENSHELL,
St Ignatius,
27 High Road, N15.
January 20.

Mixed fortunes

From Mr Brian Sewell

Sir, Professor Michael Kitson (January 20) has misinterpreted my "bizarre simile" likening the La Tour to blue marmalade: in the article in which it appeared I described Christopher Wright's reasons for rejecting "The Fortune Teller" as "inadequate", and his eye for stylistic analysis as "unreliable".

I may nevertheless have seemed his ally in my note in *The Burlington Magazine* last year points out that the technical evidence produced by John Brealey was based on the research of scientists who warned that "At the present time we consider only the data on American and Dutch works to be reasonably adequate." Mr Brealey omitted that warning, and Georges de la Tour came from Lorraine.

On stylistic grounds most art historians have agreed that the La Tour in Lvov must be his earliest known painting, hazy and a date c1615 for it. With recent cleaning the date 1634 has been revealed — knocking twenty years out of the chronology and condensing it alarmingly. In some ways this may make the stylistic discrepancies of "The Fortune Teller" easier to accept, in that La Tour in 1634 made an application for citizenship of Lorraine, was granted it, and then seems to have been absent

from the Duchy between May, 1627, and February, 1622.

If that period was spent in Holland, then nothing could be more natural for a young man, proud of his new citizenship, than to sign a picture "Luneville Lothar", as in "The Fortune Teller", and some of the technical evidence that I disputed falls into place. If it was painted in Holland in 1622, more than a decade earlier than the Lvov picture, then the differences in style may just be acceptable.

Since the picture's emergence in 1880 few art historians have accepted it without reservation, and Wright has not been alone in holding the notion that it may be a fake. The problem for me is that the intellectual arguments in its support are not strong enough to resolve doubts, and many of the scientific arguments and observations are in conflict.

I have always maintained that to be convincing the technical and stylistic comparisons must be made with the Lvov picture, which has an impeccable history and has never been doubted. As long as "The Fortune Teller" is examined only in isolation or with the Louvre and Fort Worth variants of "The Cheats", the two distinct controversies will continue — to Wright the picture may remain an outright fake, but for me it is in the limbo of uncertain attribution.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN SEWELL,
19 Eldon Road, W8.

A diary in question

From Count Nikolai Tolstoy

Sir, The Editorial Director of Penguin Books, referring (January 15) to the fake *Diary of a Farmer's Wife*, 1796-1797, speaks of "the uncertainty about the origins of the material" that forms the basis of the book and asserts that "Penguin Books certainly do not wish to be seen to make any false claims for books that we publish".

Perhaps he will inform us whether there is any uncertainty about the fact that a relative of Mrs Preston (who forged the "Diary" in or shortly before 1937) successfully claimed a copyright fee for the book on the grounds that it was Mrs Preston's sole creation?

Much more serious, as Mr Tearable points out in his letter to you (January 15) is the silence of the BBC on the matter and the failure to publish letters pointing out the deception in *Radio Times*.

Yours faithfully,
NIKOLAI TOLSTOY,
Court Close,
Southmoor,
Abingdon,
Berkshire.
January 17.

From Mr James Evison

Sir, So, "Penguin Books certainly do not wish to be seen to make any false claims..." and have been "already shamed..." into admitting (the diary) is not authentic.

stand..." (my italics), which is why I bought it.

There are too many books published which should never have been published. From the unscripted sage, I have inquired of Penguin Books if literature is covered by the Trade Descriptions Act. I honestly feel duped, especially as £2.75 is a little exorbitant for its pages of drivel.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES EVISON,
17 Church Hill,
Royaume,
South Yorkshire.

Desert reading

From Mr H. G. Conway

Sir, Or he might have tried Loiseux's book, *a Cent d'Heure d'Arabs*, *La Sahara*, a 1929 account of crossing by the same route but alone and in a small Bugatti!

Yours truly,
H. G. CONWAY,
33 Sussex Square,
Elye Park, W2.
January 20.

Omphalos?

From Mr M. R. Williams

Sir, I notice in today's "University News" (January 19) that Mr L. J. Kydill, of University College London, has had conferred upon him the title of "Professor of Naval Architecture".

I have heard of genetic engineering, but surely this is taking things a little too far! I remain, yours faithfully,
M. R. WILLIAMS,
Mountain Cottage,
Sevenoaks Weald,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.
January 19.

Saturday Review

Lewis Carroll, mathematician, fantasist, photographer, born 150 years ago, loved a good riddle. But as a warm and open man, he would have been unlikely to relish the mystery that now surrounds his diaries. What happened to the missing volumes? More sinisterly, whose hand wielded the razor that cut pages from those that survive? And how was it all concerned with the real Alice?

Who censored Lewis Carroll?

by Morton N. Cohen

Wednesday, January 27, marks Lewis Carroll's 150th birthday. Ceremonies, festivals, exhibitions, and even a pilgrimage or two to Oxford, where Carroll lived, and Guildford, where he died, will commemorate the sesquicentenary of the man who, in a stroke of genius or in a moment of absence of mind, created *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Over the years, the elusive figure of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, the man behind the pseudonym, has provoked enormous curiosity, and no better occasion will arise in our time to dispel some of the mysteries surrounding him.

The keys to what we seek to know lie at hand in Carroll's letters and in his diaries. Many of the letters are now in print, but the diaries are still a source of mystery, for only nine of thirteen volumes survive, and even they have been violated. Still, a careful examination of them tells us much and we can infer a good deal more.

Since 1970, biographers and other literary historians have been able to examine the manuscript diaries of Lewis Carroll in the British Library. The surviving volumes span 39 of Carroll's 66 years. Much of the contents of these nine notebooks crammed with writing appeared in print in the early 1950s, but the unpublished portions promised revelations. Indeed, just the fact that only nine parts, however extensive, had been selected for publication suggested that something had been withheld. It is no wonder that people engaged in Lewis Carroll studies were drawn to examine these treasures.

Despite the security, however, almost ten years passed before anyone pointed out in print that a "missing page" had been detected and that the gap occurred at a crucial time in Carroll's relationship with the family of Dean Liddell of Christ Church. The missing page, observers deduced, comes at a point when Lewis Carroll might have proposed marriage to Alice Liddell, the Dean's daughter who inspired the *Alice* books, and they concluded, that was why it was missing. In fact, however, the volumes in the British Library lack not only one page — six pages are missing, all deliberately cut out.

The diaries first became a concern of mine in the early 1960s, when, with Roger Lancelyn Green, I undertook to publish Carroll's correspondence. The Dodgson family (all collateral relations, of course, because Carroll never married) agreed to the undertaking. As we discussed the future edition of the letters, we inevitably talked about the surviving diaries. Though not a complete record, nine of thirteen volumes was a sizeable portion. They were important historically and valuable commercially, and they were being kept in a bank vault. My collaborator's edition of the diaries, containing about 60 per cent of the available text, had been published in 1953, but anyone wishing to edit Carroll's letters would benefit hugely from the information in the unpublished portions that would throw light upon the relationships between Carroll and his correspondents.

Others besides us knew of the diaries. For instance, the quest for copies of Carroll's letters, in one instance, led to an invitation to call on a well-known book and manuscript collector. He expressed an interest in the forthcoming edition, but, over lunch, made it clear that he was even more interested in Carroll's manuscript diaries. He knew that the Dodgson family still owned them, he wanted to buy them, and he wanted help in persuading the Dodgson family to sell them

to him. He implied that access to the hundreds of Carroll letters he owned would be forthcoming only if he had full cooperation in acquiring the treasured booklets. "Mr Collector" was a highly successful businessman, and the scholarly grapevine had already passed the message that he did not easily grant access to his holdings. It also seemed fairly certain that if he acquired the diaries, he might well put them in his own vault, regard them as a financial investment, and leave them in the gloom while they grew in value.

The Dodgson family felt that the diaries were a source of worry to them. Was the bank secure enough? Might the manuscripts deteriorate there? Should they be more accessible? If they were to be sold, should they go up for sale at auction, say, at Sotheby's or Christie's? They would, no doubt, bring a good price. But then the family would have no control over who bought them.

One could not hope that the fate of the diaries, if they went up for auction, would match the fortunes of the *Alice* manuscript. That text, having been sold at auction by Alice Liddell (Mrs Hargreaves then), went to the United States. It was returned to London in 1948, however, and installed in the British Museum as a gift from a group of public-spirited bibliophiles expressing gratitude for Britain's courage during the Second World War.

Happily the Dodgson family accepted the suggestion that they get in touch with the Keeper of Manuscripts at the British Museum to see if it could afford to purchase the diaries at a fair price. The Museum's trustees recognized the diaries' importance, made an offer, and the diaries went to their new home in Bloomsbury.

The Dodgson family generously permitted me to photocopy the nine volumes to help in editing and annotating the Carroll letters for publication. But before one could use them properly, they had to be indexed. Fortunately, R. E. Thompson, a professional indexer, had just that year retired from *The Times*, and I engaged him to do the job. It took him a year, but in the end, he produced a 210-page typewritten index, a copy of which was lodged in the British Museum.

Because readers could now consult the diaries and index, some of them, quite naturally, observed the "missing page" and were quick to infer a connection between it and the course of the Dodgson-Liddell friendship. In fact, a distinct break in that friendship occurred at precisely the time covered by the missing page, and the Liddells virtually vanished from the diary at that point. The page undoubtedly contained some account of the rift and the reasons for it. Logic compels us to agree that whoever dismembered the diary by excising the page (it was actually cut out with a razor, leaving behind a nubbin bits of writing still visible) wanted to conceal what ever Carroll had written there about the Liddells.

But who cut the page out? Did Carroll himself have second thoughts about some of his entries and delete them — even destroy the missing volumes — in his later years? Definitely not: Carroll always held himself accountable and responsible for everything he did, even for what he thought. He so regulated his life, so arranged his thoughts, so patterned his behaviour, that he emerges consistently as a remarkable human, perhaps even superhuman, being. He never concealed what he did or said, and if ever he had qualms, he owned up to them. He simply



July 4 (1871) *Abraham brought over to my rooms some friends of his, a few of them of whom I took photographs, and also afterwards looked over my albums and did himself. They then went to the Museum, and Duckworth & I made an expedition up the river to Oxford with the 3 Liddells: on the way we took the bank there, and I took several B. G. again till I got to 2, when we took them on to my rooms to see my collection of miniatures, photographs, and sketches to the Deaneys just before 3.*

July 5 (1871) *Left with Abraham for London at 3.30, meeting at the station the Liddells, who went by the same train. We reached 4.15. After lunch about 11.45 I went to the Liddells' place, and took the 2.15 train to Marlborough Road. After lunch I went to the Deaneys, and then to the bank.*

could not have destroyed one single page of his diaries. If he did not attempt to conceal the facts, then who did? Helmut Gernsheim insists that two of the missing volumes were "destroyed by... [Carroll's] over-conscientious nephew-biographer, Stuart Dodgson Collingwood." We actually have firm evidence that Collingwood had all the original thirteen volumes when he wrote his uncle's official biography in 1898, the year that Carroll died. But the nature of Collingwood's work defies the truth of Gernsheim's assertion: Collingwood was scholarly and historical, not afraid to confront sensitive issues.

But who then did wield the razor blade? Where are the four missing volumes? We know that after Stuart Collingwood completed his uncle's biography, the diaries were handed down to the family, bungled about in cellars and under desks, and, so the family legend goes, four volumes were simply lost through neglect.

From 1941 to 1950, the diaries were in the custody of Menella Dodgson, Carroll's niece. Unmarried, not well to do, Miss Dodgson lived in seclusion with other maiden sisters in Leamington Spa. In 1957, a wealthy collector of Carroll material sent his daughter and son-in-law down from London to call on the Misses Dodgson, to see if they had any Carroll items they would care to sell. In a letter, the daughter reported their conversation with the Misses Dodgson to her father.

Naturally we asked her about the diaries. She said very emphatically that they are not for sale and will not be as long as the sisters are living. She is going to leave them to some cousins who undoubtedly will sell them.... [We] asked if we could see them. She brought out a small brown cardboard box

Events marking Lewis Carroll's one hundred and fiftieth birthday year begin on Wednesday (the birthday itself with celebratory dinners at Christ Church, Oxford, and Daresbury, Cheshire (Dodgson/Carroll's birthplace).

An exhibition opens that day at the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York (until April 18) and will include, on loan from the British Library, Carroll's manuscript of *Alice's Adventures Under Ground* (this is returning in May, but as yet there are no special exhibition here). The Pierpont Morgan Library is putting the outstanding Arthur A.



July 16 (1871) *Abraham brought over to my rooms some friends of his, a few of whom I took photographs, and also afterwards looked over my albums and did himself. They then went to the Museum, and Duckworth & I made an expedition up the river to Oxford with the 3 Liddells: on the way we took the bank there, and I took several B. G. again till I got to 2, when we took them on to my rooms to see my collection of miniatures, photographs, and sketches to the Deaneys just before 3.*

July 17 (1871) *Left with Abraham for London at 3.30, meeting at the station the Liddells, who went by the same train. We reached 4.15. After lunch about 11.45 I went to the Liddells' place, and took the 2.15 train to Marlborough Road. After lunch I went to the Deaneys, and then to the bank.*

and in it were five or six books with ruled paper. We were told that some sections had been cut out. Miss Dodgson said she was going to cut out more before she died (she has saved the cut out parts but will not show them to anyone, she said).

"She was going to cut out more," Miss Dodgson may well have done just that and even gone on to destroy one or more of the "lost" volumes. One of the missing volumes is the very first that Carroll wrote, the earliest, the one most closely associated with the family — an excellent candidate for a watchful censor.

Another missing volume covers the months from September 1855 to January 1856, a rather short interval, covering Carroll's earliest professional life at Christ Church before, but before he met Alice Liddell. This volume could very well have gone astray in the shuffling of books and papers among Dodgson relatives or again, have been consigned to oblivion because it contained family matters that Miss Dodgson preferred the world not to know.

The last two missing volumes dealt with the period from 1858 to May 1862, over four years — critical years indeed, the years when Carroll was establishing himself, both as a man and a scholar, in Christ Church society. They were also the years when his friendship with the occupants of the Deaneys took root and blossomed, and — facts are facts — the years when Carroll came to terms with his preference for the company of children, especially female ones.

Knowing Carroll as one does, one can be sure that he would diligently record each new friendship, each new attachment. But, perhaps more to the point, he would set down a careful account of his meetings with Liddells, all of them, and his would be explicit about his

admiration and preference for the children, perhaps most particularly Alice. These accounts could very well have been meant too strong for Menella Dodgson's sensibilities, and she may have taken the liberty to adjust the record. This protective woman, then, may have destroyed some or all of the missing volumes even as she razed out the troublesome pages from those that survive.

But why have scholars closed in on only a single missing page when six are absent? The answer must be that because the break with the Liddells coincided with the period covered in that one missing page, they were too excited or distracted to seek further. The one that searchers have detected contains entries for June 21 to 23, 1863, when the break with the Liddells occurred.

But Carroll's volume 10 ends with an entry for January 24, 1868, and the next volume begins with an entry for April 2, 1868. There must have been entries for the intervening months, all of which the Liddells coincided with the period covered in that one missing page, they were too excited or distracted to seek further. The one that searchers have detected contains entries for June 21 to 23, 1863, when the break with the Liddells occurred.

Much later, however, in 1879, another cut occurs. One page, numbered 109, ends with an incomplete entry dated May 24; the next page, numbered 111, begins with an entry for June 6. Page 110 has been cut out, and here the letters help us.

In June 1879, Carroll was photographing Ruth, Ethel, and Janet Mayhew, daughters of the sometime chaplain and Hebrew Lecturer at Wadham College, Oxford, and negotiating with Mrs Mayhew, asking her to tell him "exactly what is the minimum of dress I may take [the youngest of the three] in..." Mrs Mayhew acceded to bathing-drawers, but refused to give Carroll carte

Carroll the photographer by Rejlander and (far left) his portrait of Alice Liddell which he pasted at the end of the manuscript of *Alice's Adventures Under Ground*, the original version of *Alice in Wonderland*. The page from his diary records the day the tale was first told. Left, Menella Dodgson, his niece: was hers the hand that wielded the razor on his diaries?

blanche about "dress," by which he meant permission to photograph the girl undressed. The affair erupted in a series of letters back and forth between Carroll and Mrs Mayhew and exerted considerable strain on the friendship which, like the one with the Liddells, broke in twain. Some commentators attributed Carroll's abandoning photography altogether to the Mayhew affair, although other reasons relating to technical changes in photography and the pressures of his work were undoubtedly also responsible.

Carroll surely recorded the fringes with the Mayhews in his diary, and again Miss Dodgson must have felt the need to sharpen her protective razor. The "case" against Menella Dodgson is enhanced by the fact that as late as the 1930s, Langford Reed, another Carroll biographer, had access to diary material not today in the volumes in the British Library. In his life of Carroll, he prints an entry no one else has published in which Carroll reflects upon the "duties of a companion engaged by Miss Terry to read to her and to brush her hair!" According to Reed, this is what Carroll wrote in his diary: "I can imagine no more delightful occupation than brushing Ellen Terry's hair!" Again, this passage was probably among those that a dutiful niece thought best to eliminate.

But Menella Dodgson, self-appointed censor, was not so thorough as she probably meant to be, and, fortunately for us, left intact a good many of Carroll's frank and detailed statements about his attachments and affections. On passages already lit upon and made much of by a few British Library readers, is part of the entry Carroll made for October 17, 1866, when, in London, he dined on two successive evenings with his favourite uncle and family member, Skeffington Lutwidge. "On each occasion," the passage reads, "we had a good deal of conversation about Wilfred, and about A.L. — it is a very anxious subject."

Wilfred was Carroll's brother and Menella Dodgson's father — younger than Carroll by six years and twenty-eight at the time. Wilfred had fallen in love with another Alice, Alice Jane Donkin, daughter of a Yorkshire land agent and niece of an Oxford professor of astronomy. A year earlier Carroll had written Wilfred a cautionary letter urging him, because "things are not on a satisfactory footing at present," to keep away "for a couple of years" from the object of his affections, then aged fourteen. When Carroll met with his uncle about the "anxious subject," Alice Donkin was fifteen.

"A.L." of course is Alice Liddell, and the "anxious subject" was not merely Wilfred's attachment to Alice Donkin, but Carroll's attachment to Alice Liddell as well. Alice Liddell was nearly fifteen months younger than Alice Donkin, and the problem, was the same: the great discrepancy in ages between the men and the girls.

That diary entry, one Miss Dodgson did not destroy, is a clincher. We know from this entry alone that, just as Wilfred wished to marry Alice Donkin

(and, in fact, did in 1871, when she was twenty), Carroll wished to marry "his" Alice too. Indeed, there is plenty of evidence in the diaries and elsewhere that Carroll loved Alice Liddell as he loved no other living creature. He wanted to marry her, and he may very well have intended as much to the Dean or to Mrs Liddell or both when Alice was only eleven, as she was at the date of the first missing page.

In March, 1885, five years after Alice Liddell was married, Carroll, in writing to her, confessed that his "mental picture is as vivid as ever, of one who was, through so many years, my ideal child-friend. I have had scores of child-friends since your time; but they have been quite a different thing". And then, three years later, in November, 1888, when Alice's husband came to dine at Christ Church, Carroll wrote in his diary: "It was not easy to link in one's mind the new face with the old memory — the stranger with the once so intimately known and loved 'Alice' whom I shall always remember best as an entirely fascinating little seven-year-old maiden."

Lewis Carroll, who grew up in a large, happy family of eleven children, was himself a family man — a marrying man. He believed that "God has implanted sexual desires [in us all, and that]... God forbids us to arouse or encourage these desires, except for the object, for which He gave them, marriage". This he held firmly, and this is why his life was ruled by uncompromising restraint.

True, a great gulf of years usually existed between Carroll and the objects of his fascination. But in Victorian times and before then, the love of mature men for females whom we today would regard as mere children was less exceptional than it is for us. Carroll did not, after all, invent the notion of the child bride. Freud, whose work was still to come when Carroll entertained his wish to marry Alice Liddell, has made us suspicious of relationships once regarded as natural: when Freud unlocked the cavern of the unconscious, he closed the door on various styles of friendship and love.

Carroll would never actually have proposed marriage to the eleven-year-old Alice or even betrothed her to him, for that. The most he would have done was to indicate a romantic interest in her and to suggest the possibility of a union in the future. But Carroll was unacceptable to the ambitious Mrs Liddell who, herself married to a distinguished armyman and scholar with aristocratic connections, was determined to make suitable matches for her daughters. If an elderly aristocrat had been suggested as a suitor, age probably would not have been a factor.

Had Carroll succeeded in marrying Alice, or, for that matter, someone else, his wife would have led a charmed life and been the object of care and devotion the likes of which few people have ever known. For Carroll was an extraordinarily considerate man. He loved with a full heart, and was free of himself and his goods.

Nor was he devoted only to young girls, for he gave to people of all ages, men, women, girls and boys. And when he realized that his children's books would bring in a reasonable income for the rest of his life, he even asked the University of Oxford to reduce his salary. "One of the deep secrets of life," he wrote to his friend Ellen Terry, is "that all that is really worth... doing is what we do for others." He meant it, and anyone who comes to know him and the life he led sees that he practised that dictum always.

Alice, by all accounts, was a beauty, but as a person rather than a creature, she was a creative imagination. Carroll, on the other hand, could create wonderlands and worlds behind looking-glasses at the sight of a pen and notepad or, better still, a pair of interested children's eyes. He would have delighted and amused Alice, and the later generation of Alices, with games, puzzles, stories, riddles and hoaxes; he would have lavished on them the rare products of a truly gifted imagination, an imagination that saw deep into a child's heart, and yet one that could entertain young and old alike.

Menella Dodgson cannot conceal these facts from us. But Mrs Liddell, not Menella Dodgson, is the villain of the piece, indeed she drove Carroll from the Deaneys. For what she really did was to consign her daughter Alice to life in an out-of-the-way country house in marriage to a dull and undistinguished country gentleman.

Carroll survived his heart-breaks and went on to lead a resoundingly productive life; poor Alice's only claim to fame is that she was the model for the main character of Carroll's two children's books. What a glorious irony we might have been able to tell, on this, the 150th birthday of the genius who could embody in one being the world of higher mathematics and nonsensical wonderlands — what a glorious tale we would have told had he been given the hand of his choice in marriage and fathered children of his own to inspire him to even greater heights of creativity.

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Morton N. Cohen, Professor Emeritus of The City University of New York, edited *The Letters of Lewis Carroll* (2 vols.) and is now writing a life of Carroll.

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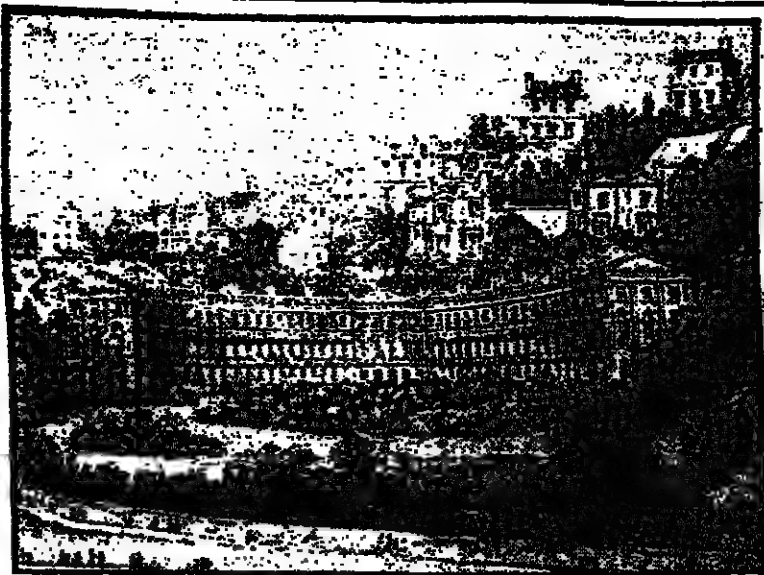
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Shoparound with Beryl Downing



Hesketh Crescent, Torquay, from a nineteenth century engraving. Today, the Osborne Hotel is in the centre of the terrace.

More chance to be impure

I am not a healthaholic. The idea of a week's supervised starvation on £250 worth of lemon juice has always seemed to me to be one of the more ludicrous ways of trying to dispose of the body.

Inside, I don't want to be pure. Outside, which in theory will give me the chance of being rather more impure all round.

So when I was told I could spend two days eating lots of delicious food without putting on an ounce, and with even the chance of losing a couple of pounds, I couldn't resist playing leapfrog for a weekend.

Don't be alarmed — this is not the latest cult exercise from America and you don't actually have to jump over anything. The Leapfrogs is the name of an all-in health and beauty weekend package planned to snap you out of your winter torpor. And it all takes place in the comfort of an elegant hotel — the Osborne in Torquay.

The programme starts at 6 pm on Friday with a tour round Gary Richards's basement health club where you will be shedding flab in all directions. Then there is a misery-inducing weigh-in, presumably designed to make you pathetically grateful at the idea of ever eating again.

You need not worry. Dinner upstairs in Chives restaurant, attached to the hotel, is low-in-calories, but very filling — lots of Norwegian prawns with lemon juice instead of mayonnaise, a choice of poached sole with yogurt, chicken with peppers, grilled steak or seafood platter, and then pear with white wine or a similar pud, or low calorie cheeses. Non-dieters can choose from the standard restaurant menu, with the possibility of a supplementary charge if they are very extravagant.

On Saturday, men use the gym first while women have a dance and movement session before a salad lunch. The afternoon is free for tennis, snooker, table tennis — or a walk to the nearby Kent's Cavern, one of the most ancient habitations in Britain — used by cavemen 100,000 years ago.

Women have their turn in the gym in the afternoon. You will be taken through a programme of exercise by a slyph in a shiny, kidfisher, home cooking car makes her look like a perfectly contoured water sprite. You will hate her. However, unlike mother, she really does know what is

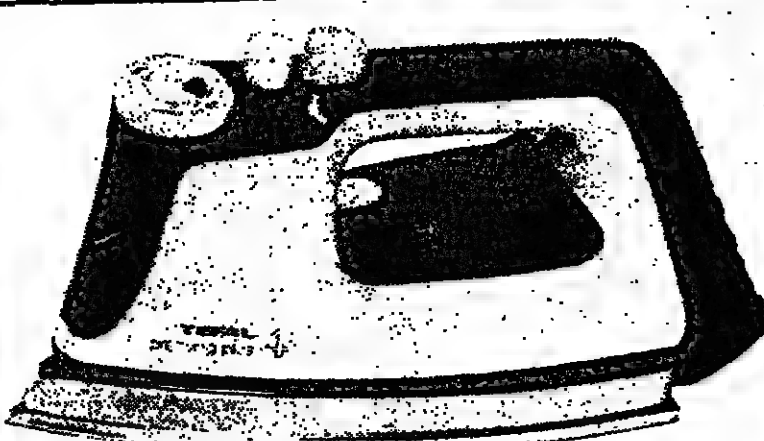
best for you and will decide what exercise will help to correct individual problems, so you will just have to swallow your jealousy and get on with it. After exercises come shower, sauna, jacuzzi, sunbed. There are various beauty treatments, too, but these are extra. On Sunday more gym in the morning, buffet lunch and tennis or whatever you choose to enjoy before departing, clutching your diet and exercise programme to help your strengthened resolve. If you go to Torquay by car you might also like to visit Dartington to buy cheap second glass and to have a drink at the fourteenth century thatched cott inn near Totnes, where Daniel Defoe wrote *Robinson Crusoe*.

The most agreeable aspect of the whole weekend is that you don't feel forced to do anything. The hotel is relaxed and friendly and nobody makes you feel that everything has to hurt before it does you good.

The Osborne itself has a magnificent palm-fringed Mediterranean outlook over Torbay — a curved Regency-style terrace built in 1846 by Sir Lawrence Palk, whose colourful descendant, the second Lord Haldon, is said to have gambled away his fortune by the then popular sport of racing spiders round a dinner plate.

The Leapfrogs weekend packages (available from next weekend to February 26/March 2) cost £70 including all meals from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch. More details from the Osborne Hotel, Hesketh Crescent, Torquay, telephone 0893 213311. If you go with a friend who isn't on the health club kick, bed and continental breakfast is £13.50 (not a lot compared with other top hotels in Torquay), and the main courses in Chives restaurant is around £5.50.

Results? If you are serious about slimming you could lose a couple of pounds, which is enough to encourage you to keep up the good work when you get home. You will not lose 400 one day and have a jolly pinny evening and put it all back the next (I did). You will not make the rail strike a good excuse for staying another night and have an enormous naughty nosh in a Chinese chippy on Sunday (I did). But you will have a wonderful weekend (I did), that makes a slim spring seem possible after all.



Lightening the load

If you are thinking of updating your home laundering equipment, here are two new ways to make life easier — a washing machine with free servicing for five years and a steam iron which takes ordinary tap water without furring up.

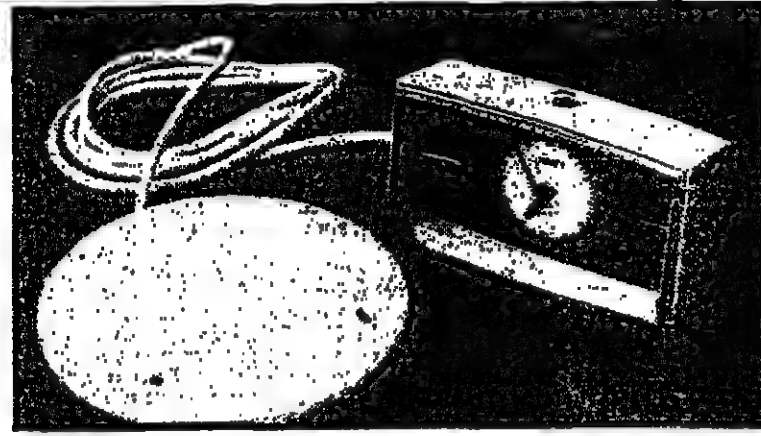
The washing machine is by Candy and has a stainless steel drum to overcome corrosion and a new construction which avoids stress caused by heat and vibration — both features cutting down the likelihood of failure and the need for replacements. It costs around £250 from Alders of Croydon.

Under the special servicing arrangement you pay £34.95 for

five years' cover of parts and labour if anything should go wrong — and at the end of that time you get a refund of the whole amount. This arrangement is at the moment available only until June this year, but it may be extended.

The steam iron by Tefal is heavy enough to press efficiently without any tiring extra elbow power. It has an excellent spray which is fine enough to damp the area in front of the iron tip without producing a puddle and it has a clear panel on the body which shows the water level.

The heel is well proportioned and allows the iron to remain steady when upright and the appearance, as you can see, is neat and streamlined. On the whole, irons come fairly low on my list of rivetingly fascinating topics, but this one I like. It costs £20 from branches of Rumbelows.



An electric alarm clock with an extension pad which vibrates under the pillow has been designed for deaf people — but it would be just as helpful to those who simply cannot wake up in the morning.

Developed by engineers for the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, the clock has an audible alarm if you wish to use it conventionally, plus the pad attached by a long flex. The pad vibrates gently and persistently until the sleeper wakes. The Vibralarm is available from Niagara Therapy (UK) Ltd, 251 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1HG, at £37.10, including postage. If a medical certificate is produced, VAT will be deducted.

Decorate the design kit way

Plenty of best selling authors are besotted by bed. Some devote a good deal of space to loofers on sofas, others are clearly turned on by shower power. Mary Gilliat manages to inject a strong infusion of all three into her latest book — and the result is an enormously successful encyclopedia of decorating.

It is unusual for any book priced at £16.95 to sell in hundreds of thousands, to be selected by five book clubs and to be destined for translation into German, Dutch, French, Spanish, Japanese and Norwegian, but, apart from her obvious talent, Mary Gilliat has something that sets her apart from all other interior designers — an ability to inspire confidence in the most amateur decorator.

She also has a rare generosity — a willingness to let you in to her professional secrets, and this may be because she had no formal design training but learnt the hard way, by making her own mistakes. She began her career as a journalist, having won a *Vogue* talent competition, and was simply thrown in at the deep end when a developer asked her to design a show house.

Although she is now quite accustomed to designing lavish schemes for grand apartments and houses here and in America (so many that she now has a house in Connecticut so that she can operate efficiently on both sides of the Atlantic) she actually likes to design schemes that are limited by a budget. "I hate things to look too new



For those, like me, who have killer thumbs instead of green fingers, a watering gadget to help your Christmas plants live as long as possible — or keep them happy while you abandon them for the ski slopes. The Eumet is a porous earthenware cone attached to a weighted feed tube placed in a container of water next to the pot. It maintains the correct moisture level in the soil for each plant's needs. £1.50 from Selfridges and branches of Rochfords Nurseries or £4.50 a pack of three (including postage) from Playgears, 15 Mayfield Gardens, London, NW4, telephone (01) 202 4714.



For those inspired by the boom in Eastern art — a selection of jewelry in cloisonné and enamel from The Friendship Collection made in the People's Republic of China. Black and gold cloisonné egg, £12.50, cream and pastel enamel bracelet £20, cream and gold enamel heart £7.50 (perhaps for Valentine's day — more suggestions next week). All at Dickins & Jones, Regent Street, W1 and Selfridges, Oxford Street, W1, who also have a range of jade pendants from £8.50 and carved carabeer necklaces from £22.

Tenniel in tapestry

If you would like to commemorate the 13th birthday of Lewis Carroll on January 27 by producing a piece of artwork to last for another century or so, you may care to choose a tapestry designed by Stelly Levy based on the Tenniel drawing of Tweedle-dum and Tweedledee.

Purists may quarrel with the reversal of the Doe and Dum, but they can wait for further Alice tapestries which will follow later this year. This tapestry, 14in square, complete with brightly coloured wools, uses long and short stitch for the design, so it is quick to do and has a varied texture.

It is available at Liberty, Regent Street, W1, at £19.95 plus £1 p & p or, for the next fortnight only, as a special birthday offer for Times readers, at £15.95 including postage direct from Stella Levy Designs, 37 Gower Street, London WC1, telephone 01-537 1530. The offer closes on February 6.



Mary Gilliat: too much choice

and perfect and very decorated", she says. "One of the problems in decorating is too much choice, not too little, so when your selection is limited by a given amount of money you think of much more interesting and ingenious ways of doing things."

"I always start with colour. I advise people to make a collection of colour pictures of furnishings from magazines — anything that pleases them. Put them in a file, leave them for a while and then take them out and study them. Your preference in shapes and colours is almost always immediately obvious."

Too many people make the mistake of buying instead of working out a budget, and a long-term plan. Lots of people who think of themselves as avant garde are really still influenced by what their parents bought and rush out and spend all their money on a three-piece suite because they think they can't live without one.

Another way of avoiding mistakes is to use the design kit at the back of *The Decorating Book* (Michael Joseph £16.95). Having studied the sections on principles of design, and the room-by-room guide which shows how the same room can be

treated in several different styles to suit a variety of tastes, you can make your own schemes by using the graph paper and cut-out furniture in the design kit and by referring to the Sample Book section of wallpapers, fabrics and floorcoverings to coordinate colours and patterns.

If you have rather more in the kitty you could ask Mary's professional opinion for a consultation fee of £50 plus £250 to £500 design fee for each room — but you can recoup that on the discounts she passes on when you buy furnishings through her. Or you can simply wait until the autumn for her next book — a collection, something like a cookbook, of decoration "recipes" for cheap chic in furnishing. If it is as handsome as *The Decorating Book* there should be a property boom caused by the thousands of readers all wanting to buy a new house just to put the ideas into practice.

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole

The best of British

When a cook as well regarded as The Dorchester's maitre chef — Anton Mosimann — decides that only British food will be served in the hotel's restaurant, home cooking can certainly be said to have arrived somewhere. In this case though it is home cooking mostly in the sense that the dishes and ingredients are the best of British.

Sauces thickened with flour are out in Chef Mosimann's subterranean domain, and so are soggy veg. *Nouvelle cuisine*, for want of a better phrase, rules in the recently revamped Terrace Restaurant upstairs, and its influence is soon to be felt across the hall in that tapestried bastion of roast beef and lamb chops, The Grill. Tripe with onions, roast sucking pig with walnut and apple stuffing and boiled leg of lamb with caper sauce are just a few of the traditional dishes to be relaunched next week in modern dress.

Chief Mosimann is not the first person to point out that there is nothing new in cooking and he has no intention of banishing Yorkshire pudding from the new menu. What he is up to is more subtle than that. "Take ox-tail. If it is in a heavy thick sauce full of flour I don't want to eat it", he says. "But with our modern approach it is in a beautiful shiny sauce. Reducing the cooking liquid twice before braising it encourages the gelatine to come out of the ox-tail and shine the sauce."

Lightness, simplicity and clarity of flavour are the goals of what he calls his "attack" on British cooking. So in other dishes, like the halibut poached in dry cider, cream is the thickening agent. In this case the sauce gains in calories as well as taste and lightness. And the

same thing is true of The Dorchester's soufflé-like bread pudding. This week's recipes then are Anton Mosimann's, with additional details gleaned from happy morning spent in his kitchen and from cooking the dishes at home.

Poached halibut in dry cider
Serves four
4x170 g (6 oz) halibut fillets (supremes, see method)
Salt and freshly ground white pepper

30 g (1 oz) butter
55 g (2oz) carrot, cut in fine strips
55 g (2 oz) celery, cut in fine strips
55 g (2 oz) leek, cut in fine strips
120 ml (4 fl oz) fish stock
300 ml (½ pint) dry cider, preferably Blackthorn
4 tomatoes, peeled, seeded and very finely chopped
250 ml (8 fl oz) double cream

Finely chopped parsley to garnish
Supremes are skinless fillets of large fish, each of which is enough to make one portion. Halibut is usually sold in steaks. But if you buy one piece large enough for four servings, it can be skinned and a flat fillet cut from each side of the spine, top and bottom.

Dry the fish and season it lightly with salt and pepper. Melt the butter in a heavy sauté or frying pan and add the carrot, celery and leek. Sauté them gently for a minute or two without allowing them to brown, then add the fish. Pour over the fish stock and cook on a high heat. The stock should be bubbling briskly. Allow the stock to reduce to just a few tablespoons, then add the

cider. Continue poaching until the fish is done. Ideally, the fish will be cooked and the liquid reduced to about 150 ml (¼ pint) simultaneously. If the liquid is reducing too fast, cover the pan until the fish is ready. As soon as the fish is cooked, remove it from the pan and keep it warm.

Reduce the liquid in the pan by fast boiling to 150 ml (¼ pint) if there is more than that quantity, and add the chopped tomato and cream. Shake or stir the sauce over a medium heat to blend the cream and stock and continue cooking until the mixture has reduced by about half and thickened a little.

Arrange the halibut on warmed serving plates. Add any juices which have run out of the fish to the sauce, unless this will thin it down too much, and adjust the seasoning. Pour the sauce over the fish and sprinkle each portion with a little chopped parsley.

Braised ox-tail
Serves four
1.5 kg (3½ lbs) ox-tail

Salt and freshly ground black pepper
3 tablespoons oil, preferably peanut
200 g (7 oz) mirepoix (chopped leek, carrot, celery and onion)
200 ml (7 fl oz) red wine
1 litre (1¾ pints) brown stock
3 tablespoons tomato purée
1 bay leaf
1 sprig of thyme

For the garnish
140 g (5 oz) carrots
140 g (5 oz) turnips
110 g (4 oz) button onions, peeled

30 g (1 oz) butter (optional, see method)
30 g (1 oz) finely chopped parsley

Cut the ox-tail into pieces 2.5 to 5 cm (1 to 2 inches) thick and season them with salt and pepper. Heat the oil in a heavy flameproof casserole, and sauté the ox-tail until it is well browned. Add the mirepoix and cook the vegetables until they too are well browned.

Add the wine and cook on a high heat until it has reduced to just a few tablespoons, then add one third of the stock and continue boiling until it too is well reduced.

Now add the remaining stock, the tomato purée, bay leaf and thyme. Cover the casserole and braise the ox-tail in a preheated moderately hot oven (150°C/375°F, gas mark 6) for about 2½ hours, or until the ox-tail is very tender.

While the ox-tail is cooking, prepare the vegetables for the garnish. To turn the carrots and turnips is an optional refinement. Use a sharp knife to shape the vegetables into elongated miniature rugby balls about the size of a large teaspoon. Uniformity is the aim, and it takes practice, but the results do give a well finished appearance to the completed dish. The offcuts can, of course, be used for soup or stock.

When the ox-tail is tender, take the pieces from the casserole and drain the fat from the sauce, then pass it through a fine sieve, pressing through as much of the mirepoix as possible. Return the sauce and ox-tail to the casserole and add the turned carrots and turnips, and the button onions. Cook the braise for another 30 min-

utes. Adjust the seasoning to taste and serve with a sprinkling of parsley.

The vegetable garnishes may be cooked separately in the butter and added to the braise when it is served.

Bread and butter pudding
Serves four

250 ml (8 fl oz) milk
250 ml (8 fl oz) double cream
A pinch of salt
1 vanilla pod
3 eggs
110 g (4 oz) sugar
3 small butter rolls
30 g (1 oz) butter

1 tablespoon sultanas or currants, soaked in water
1½ tablespoons apricot jam
A little icing sugar
Put the milk, cream, salt and vanilla pod in a pan and bring to the boil. Combine the eggs and sugar in a bowl and mix well. Remove the vanilla pod from the hot cream and pour it into the egg mixture, stirring briskly. Sieve this custard. Cut the rolls in thin slices discarding the top and bottom crusts, and butter them.

Arrange the slices in an ovenproof dish and sprinkle them with the soaked sultanas or currants. Add the custard and dot with any remaining butter. Bake the pudding in a water bath of boiling water which comes half way up the sides of the dish in a cool oven at (140°C/275°F, gas mark 1) for about 1 hour, or until just firm.

Spread the apricot jam over the top of the pudding and dust it lightly with icing sugar. Set the glaze under the grill, browning it lightly. Serve the pudding hot, warm or cold with cream or bottled fruit.

Gardening/Roy Hay

Half measures in the bed

For a time hardy annual flowers — those which may be sown in the open where they are to bloom — lost much of their popularity. Obviously it is much easier to buy a few boxes of half hardy annuals — marigolds, petunias, minias and plant them out.

The preparation of the ground is the same for hardy and half hardy annuals, but with the former you have to sow the seeds and thin the seedlings perhaps twice. But for the price of two or three boxes of half hardy annuals you can buy a lot of packets of hardy annuals and have a splendid, colourful show.

While there are dozens of hardy varieties among the half hardy and tender flowers, why there are so few hardy hybrids I have no idea. We can of course treat some hardy biennial and perennial flowers as annuals: the modern *F. pansies* will flower the same year, but to do so need to be sown in a heated greenhouse in February or March. Sown in the open in a seed bed or in a cold frame in June or July, they may be planted out in the autumn. We have had some in bloom even until they were covered with snow and I hope they will flower generously all next spring and summer.

We have grown the blue and the yellow *F. varieties* for some years and last year, for the first time, we tried "Indian Boy" (4), rich red,

and "Imperial Orange" (2,4), a very large flowered pansy of a rich orange with a black blotch. They are really excellent.

Shirely poppies, both the single and double mixtures, are sadly neglected these days; they may be sown in the open in spring or in September to flower rather earlier the following year than the spring sown seed.

They are very useful to sow to follow some of the earlier summer flowers — a few seeds sown among bearded irises will bring colour to that patch of bed or border after the irises have finished. Devoted iris lovers would probably disapprove but I have always found these plants to be cheerful bedfellows.

Nasturtiums, tall and dwarf, are very good value for filling in gaps in shrub or herbaceous beds or borders, for tubs and window boxes or hanging baskets. One can still buy mixtures of these old favourites.

Many new sweet pea varieties too are strongly scented, particularly the novelty "Royal Wedding" (4), a large flowered, long stemmed pure white variety. Sadly the other outstanding novelty of the year, "Brim Clough" (4), has little scent but is a splendid salmon orange.

Stockists:
(1) Dobie & Son, Upper Dee Mills, Llangollen, Clwyd, LL20 8SD.
(2) Sutton Seeds, Hele Road, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 7QJ.
(3) Thompson & Morgan, London Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 0BA.
(4) J. W. & Sons, Histon, Cambridge.

annual flowers are brightly coloured, nature has not thought it necessary to endow many of them with fragrance — the dowdy mignonette would not catch the eye of pollinating insects and so is richly scented.

As sweet peas are self pollinated and hence do not need to attract insects, one wonders why the original *Lathyrus odoratus* and the early forms now sold as "old fashioned" varieties, which were not very showy by modern standards, were so powerfully fragrant. One can still buy mixtures of these old favourites.

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Competition Results

We were delighted again this week with awful puns (Food-lew, Downgraded, etc.) as caption to our picture of Lord Grade in retreat. "Biodegradable" was the least awful, from Mr Theodore Crombie of south London, who is the runner-up, winner, with (not much better) "The End of the Peet Show", is Mr A. Phillips of Wembley, Middlesex.

Travel/edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Buying British/John Carter

Playing on the home ground

Unless you were planning to return to old haunts — the hotel or guest house that had accommodated you for a dozen summer seasons or, more likely, to friends or relatives who would put you up (or put up with you) for a couple of weeks — the business of organizing a holiday in Britain used to be a very complicated affair.

You answered the resort advertisement, sending off the required postal order for its guide, and from that selected your hotel or guest house which you then telephoned or, usually, wrote to. If your first or second choice could not accommodate you when you wished, you had to press on through the list, working by hunch rather than any form of star rating, and worrying about it all increasingly as the days passed and you received no reply, despite the obligatory "see enclosed".



If the same ponderous technique had applied to foreign holidays, we should never have colonized the shores of Spain or Italy as we did, never got to grips with Greece or tackled Tunisia. But the technique did not apply. Instead we learned to identify and purchase "package" holidays, presented to us in glossy brochures and purchasable in a simple single transaction over a travel agency counter.

It is to their credit that those made responsible for the promotion of holidays in Britain at the end of the 1960s quickly came to grips with that basic problem, and have made the buying of a "domestic" holiday as simple as the buying of a foreign one.

Perhaps that does not apply to the entire range of holidays, but it certainly applies to most. And it has to be said that some of the best tourist literature now being produced is that coming from the national and regional boards in England, Scotland and Wales.

Take, for example, the glossy *England Holidays '82* which was produced in the middle of last month by the English Tourist Board, as the official guide to what is available. As weighty (104 pages) as your average holiday brochure, it contains information about seaside and countryside holidays, touring and self-catering holidays and those which fall into the "activity and special interest" categories.

I shall get down to some specifics in a moment, but the general point to be made — and borne in mind — is that many of the holidays are bookable through travel agents (from whom, incidentally, the brochure may be obtained). What is more, some 1,000 agents and 30 leading holiday companies have joined together, with the support of the ETB, to form Holiday UK. Member agents carry supplies of special brochures to supplement the travel companies' own material — all in an effort to educate the public to think about domestic holidays in the same package deal terms as they do holidays abroad.

Not that the holiday companies have been slow to produce their British packages. The names of Butlins, Warners and Pontins among holiday camp operators, and of Blakes and Hosesons in booking holidays have been familiar for many years. What has happened is that those well-established con-

cerns have been joined by a host of smaller ones — in some cases single hotels have got into the "package" act in order to fill their rooms.

The ETB's main brochure guides the holidaymaker towards particular regions of England, listing the addresses of regional tourist boards, from whom more information may be obtained. It also gives, for example, the names of coach operators, divided into the regions from which they operate, whether the holidays they offer are of the touring kind or at particular resorts with connecting coach travel. It also lists companies offering resort holidays by rail and the overwhelming majority of all of these are marked as selling through travel agents.

Self-catering holidays represent the biggest growth area, in domestic holidays, and there are plenty of companies offering houses and cottages for rent. Blakes and Hosesons have branched into this field, but there are many other small companies, of which, for example, English Country Cottages of Claypit Lane, Fakenham, Norfolk, offer more than 750 properties throughout the country, sleeping from two to 14 people and ranging from country mansions to farm-houses.

Grey Abbey Properties (Dept. TB P.O. Box 23, Coach Road, Whitehaven, Cumbria) have cottages, flats, houses and caravans in and around the northern part of the Lake District, while Fairlawn Cottages (Maresfield Park, Box 4, Uckfield, East Sussex) specializes in the South east, the West country and the Cotswolds.

If you fancy the countryside, but not self-catering, then the ETB book lists half a dozen companies offering farmhouse accommodation from £42 for a week on half board terms. Those who wish to get right away from the crowds, however, might go for the log cabins that the Forestry Commission has available in the Kernow Forest in Cornwall and in the Cropton Forest in the North Yorkshire Moors (Forestry Holiday Bookings, 231 Cornsophine Road, Edinburgh, EH12 7AT).

Writing that Edinburgh address reminds me that although I have so far concentrated on holidays in England, a similar selection

is available in Scotland and Wales, whose respective tourist boards have produced similar guidebooks to that from the ETB. A travel agent should, similarly, be able to help with further information. He should also be able to help if you want to book one of the very many activity and special interest holidays that are available throughout Britain.

It is interesting to see, in everything from archery to water skiing, from archaeology to weaving. So great is the demand for such holidays that a special book — *Activity and Special Interest Holidays* — is published by the ETB this month. It costs 75 pence and should be available at tourist information offices and the larger bookshops. Or you could get it by post (25 pence extra) from the ETB at Herndon Road, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN3 9JZ.

So far I have mentioned only "official" literature from the national and regional boards, and this is invaluable for any one who wants to create his or her style of holiday. If the very much packaged deal is your fancy, however, the likes of Blakes and Hosesons, of Butlins, Pontins and Warner, to say nothing of the coach tour companies and Golden Rail, all have their own brochures on the travel agency shelves.

To a greater extent they are offering the mixture as before, but as one sales director put it when we spoke at the beginning of this month: "If it works, why change it?" and sales figures indicate that the old formulae do work in respect of domestic holiday packages — familiarity breeds content.

All that needs to happen now is for the individual seaside resorts to look long and hard at the way they regard their main industry, and to become as up to date in their publicity and marketing as the "commercial" travel trade. National and regional tourist boards are giving a lead in this, but by and large the resorts are lagging. Still, you can always answer the small ads, send off the postal order for the guide and go through the tedious old process of writing off to individual hotels and guest houses ("see enclosed"). Somehow, though, I think there must be a better way of going about it.

Winter holiday discount news

Destination	Nights	Company	Price	Save	Departures
SKIMING					
Zermatt, Switzerland	7/1/b	Ski West	£139	£48	Jan 30
Courchevel, France	7/1/b	Ski West	£169	£60	Feb 6
Courchevel	14/1/b	Ski West	£199	£106	Jan 30
Courmayeur, Italy	7/1/b	Ski West	£109	£58	Feb 6
Zermatt	7/s/c	Ski West	£125	£60	Feb 6
Verbier, Switzerland	7/s/c	Ski West	£103	£30	Jan 30
Meribel, France	7/s/c	Ski West	£120	£30	Feb 6
Les Arcs, France	7/14 s/c	Ernie Low	£111/171	£50	Feb 6
Courchevel	7/14 s/c	Holiday Villas	£95/126	£24/36	Jan 30
Courchevel	7/14 s/c	Holiday Villas	£134/171	£15/19	Feb 6
Tignes, France	7/1/b	Supertravel	£149/164	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
Val d'Isere, France	7/1/b	Supertravel	£154/169	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
La Plagne, France	7/1/b	Supertravel	£164/179	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
Avoriaz, France	7/1/b	Supertravel	£169	£35	Jan 30
Meribel, France	7/1/b	Supertravel	£199	£35	Feb 6
Courchevel	7/1/b	Supertravel	£189/214	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
St Anton, Austria	7/1/b	Supertravel	£164/179	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
Lech, Austria	7/1/b	Supertravel	£164/199	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
Saas Fee, Switzerland	7/1/b	Supertravel	£144	£35	Jan 30
Verbier, Switzerland	7/1/b	Supertravel	£184	£35	Feb 6
WINTER SUN					
Benidorm	7/h/b	Tjareborg*	£105	£24	Feb 6, & Manchester
Morocco tour	14/1/b	Tjareborg*	£209	£30	Feb 5 & 12, & Manchester
Rome	3/b/b	Thomson	£92	£30	Jan 29
Tunisia	7/h/b	Thomson	£139	£25	Feb 4, Luton
Majorca	7/h/b	Thomson	£109	£20	Feb 8, Cardiff
Majorca	7/h/b	Thomson	£129	£30	Feb 7, Glasgow
Athens	7/b/b	Thomson	£114	£40	Feb 7, Luton
Ellat, Israel	7/b/b	Twickenham Travel	£199	£43	Jan 31
Red Sea flotilla	7/s/c	Twickenham Travel	£199	£50	Jan 31, 22 Feb 7, 14, 21, & 28
Malta	7/14 h/b	Portland*	£119/159	£32/40	Feb 5 Luton
Tunisia	7/14/1/b	Portland	£119/£149	£21/23	Feb 5 Luton
Majorca	7/14/1/b	Portland	£105/129	£15/18	Feb 6
Costa Blanca	7/h/b	Portland	£95	£16	Feb 7
Costa Brava	7/14/1/b	Enterprise	£87/97	£30/40	Mar 6, 13, 20 & 27
Majorca	11/1/b	Enterprise	£99	£40	Feb 23
Majorca	11/1/b	Enterprise	£103	£40	Mar 2, 9, 16 & 23
Majorca	10/1/b	Enterprise	£94/98	£40	Feb 27, Mar 6, 13, 20 & 27
Costa Blanca	7/14/1/b	Enterprise	£97/123	£30/40	Feb 21, 28, Mar 7, 14, 21 & 28
Costa del Sol	7/14/1/b	Enterprise	£113/149	£30/40	Mar 7, 14 & 21
Costa del Sol	10/1/b	Enterprise	£122	£35	Mar 7, 14 & 21
Costa del Sol	11/1/b	Enterprise	£127	£35	Mar 10, 17 & 24
Algarve	11 h/b	Enterprise	£119/126	£45	Feb 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 10 & 17
Crete	7/14 h/b	Sovereign	£180/240	£20/30	Mar 4, 11 & 18
Malta	7/14 h/b	Sovereign	£180/270	£33/44	Mar 4, 11 & 18 & 25
Agadir, Morocco	7/14 h/b	Sovereign	£180/260	£32/27	Mar 12, 19 & 26

Flights are from Gatwick unless otherwise stated. All discounts are calculated on current brochure prices. *May only be booked directly. Portland telephone 01-388 5111 or 061-2281188. Tjareborg 01-499 8678 or 061-236 9511

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Architecture/Charles McKean

The danger in name-dropping

Unless your home was a major historic building, you might have expected to be able to adapt it to suit yourself without interference. Even kings had to alter their castles from time to time to cater for changing circumstances.

The following saga deals with a homeowner who wanted to improve and adapt a small part of her unlisted house; her architect, who was skilful, intellectual and perhaps a bit proud withal; the local environmental enforcement troops; and em-

The house is a late Victorian and Edwardian brick house in Canonbury, a three-storey confection of a mixture of styles. The architect, Harry Grillo, claimed to find inspiration in the Tudor, Renaissance, English Renaissance and Tudor. He said as much in his planning sub-

■ The British are curiously hypocritical about wine. "They put a great deal of sugar in their drink," said a visitor in 1598. Our penetratingly damp climate and the comfort to a rheumatic constitution of a drink that warms and relaxes inspired the creation of port (the granitic vineyards of the Douro are equally bone-deep in sugar), and of the great sweet sherries (unknown in Spain) and pre-central heating nipples such as Marsala, Málaga, Tarragona and Brandy. By the greater quantity of sherry sold in Britain is sweet and one of the top pop wines is the Cyprus EMVCA Cream, and so are a few markets on the UK's island shelves.

for the cream-based liqueurs. Yet there is still a stupid notion that a "better" to "drink dry." This is fine when the atmosphere is dry likewise and the palate needs perking up. But it is sheer affectation to shy away from wines that provide pleasure because of their natural fruity sweetness, a quality that is not being "sweetened." A well-made wine should never be cloying and many of them are good partners to unctu-

hard to enjoy. A peony pink sparkling wine from Spumante, from the highly respected firm of Bersano at Nizza Monferrato, in the Asti region, is very well made, a fruity drink with a tinglingly fresh finish. The Bersano establishment, which makes a wide range of wines, is well known in the Italian wine museum, partly housed in its impressive cellars, partly in the gardens outside, is one of the most impressive

mission. Perhaps that was his first mistake.

The simple adaptation required was a new porch. It was needed both to make the front entrance more prominent, and also to provide additional internal space. Mr Grillo determined that it should have style and wit. That was his second mistake. It should be added that these measures are not seen as mistakes by me: but they must have appeared heinous errors to the local council, to judge by their ensuing actions.

The architect prepared a scheme for a Baroque porch, circular in plan, and lit from the top of a shallow dome, and from two circular windows on each side. While not spectacular, the scheme would have been a miniature gem, and a teasing counterfoil to the existing buildings. Unfortunately, in the planning submission, he made

Drink Non-dry

A peony pink sparkling wine, Brachetto Spumante, from the highly respected firm of Bersano at Nizza Monferrate, in the Asti region, is very well made, a fruity drink with a tinglingly fresh finish. The Bersano establishment, which makes a wide range of wines, is well worth a detour because its wine museum, partly housed in its impressive cellars, partly in the gardens outside, is one of the most impressive

reference to Bramante, to Palladio, to Colen Campbell and to Aldo Van Eyck. Maybe that was his third mistake: perhaps a bit over the top for a simple house porch. Perhaps it was felt that he was trying to exert

The submission was dealt with by someone from the planning department whom neither the Royal Town Planning Institute nor the Royal Institute of British Architects claimed as a member. She demurred. The porch on this house, she said

— were there to be a porch at all — should follow the shape of the shallow, angular bay windows of the existing house. In other words, a repetition of existing mediocrity was preferred to a stylish and witty invention.

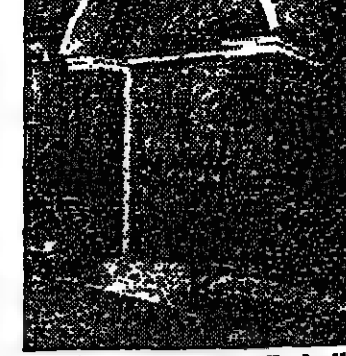
Mr Grillo tried again. This time he proposed a barrel-vaulted, rectangular structure, with rectangular win-

/Pamela Vandyke
y by no me

in Italy.

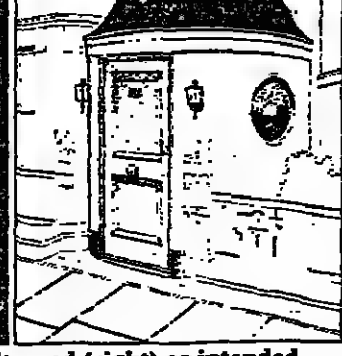
The Brachetto Spumante costs £2.99 from La Vignero, 105 Old Brompton Rd., SW7, another establishment worth a detour, because it is kept by a young woman Master of Wine and her husband, who also stock wine, books, beers — and are open on Sundays.

Most people' will be fam-



The porch as finally built—and (right) as intended

The design was passed, and the porch now exists. It can be seen by the curious at 16 Canonbury Place. It has touches of delight, but is substantially less original and witty than the original.



This cautionary tale has been told at this length — although nothing like the length that the original negotiations were spun out — to indicate that no matter how good the client's patronage, no matter how skilled or witty the architect, the planning staff and amenity heavyweights can still enforce the levels of mediocrity of which they are clearly so fond.

the mushroom breaking off and if you let go of the cork it is a potential danger — every year people lose eyes by letting the cork fly, for the pressure behind it is equal to that in the tyre of a

London bus. Visiting a technical exhibition in Paris, a director of R & C Vintners came across a sturdy plastic gripper, designed to hold the mushroom part of the cork of any sparkling wine. Not only does it hold the cork firmly while the bottle is turned but, as the instinctive reaction is to tighten the grip if the cork suddenly pops out, it will retain the cork safely. It can be used for any sparkling wine stoppered with a cork, but not a plastic stopper.

The gripper is not sold here but to obtain one (in white, and carrying the name of Veuve du Vernay in green), it is only necessary to send a *meul* "plaqueette" (the cap) under the wire on top of the cork) from any bottle of Veuve du Vernay to: R & C Vintners, Dept V1, Carrow, Norwich, plus stamps valued 20p, and your full postal address — block letters, please. Allow 28 days for delivery.

In an article on the links between mathematics, music and chess which I wrote for *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews* in 1980 I pointed out that each employed a planned symbolism to develop its ideas. This similarity in the processes of thought was emphasized by the nature of the stages of the development.

"In planning his logarithm or theorem, or even his complete theory, the mathematician will build it up as though it were a living organism with a beginning, a middle and an end. The planning and execution of a game of chess — well, I have just described it. The three basic phases of a game are precisely the opening, the middle-game and the ending.

"In music too we find exactly the same process. Consider a sonata by Mozart. It is divided up into precisely these three parts, both chronologically and logically. The first movement is an opening allegro, the second or middle movement is an *adagio* or an *andante* and the third and final movement is an allegro or *allegretto*."

Arising from all this is the high-sounding claim that chess is not a mere game but, like music, an art, and, like mathematics, a science. High-sounding it may be, but it is a stand which I first took at the age of 16 when I was absorbed equally by chess and music and I see no reason to change it.

I suppose it all depends on one's definition of what constitutes an art and how this fits in with one's definition of the pursuit and practice of music and chess.

Alison Best, an accomplished American journalist whom I met at the FIDE congress at Atlanta, Georgia, last year, has given me a definition of art made by Ayn Rand in his book, *The Romantic Manifesto*: "a selective recreation of reality according to the artist's metaphysical judgments, by means of a specific material medium."

This seems to me too narrow a definition, since there are many forms of art and it describes only one of them. But the astonishing fact is that it constitutes an exact definition of the game and play of chess. The section's re-creation of reality and the metaphysical value judgments are precisely the ideas a chess player produces and uses and his specific material medium is the chessboard and the pieces.

For a practical illustration of the importance of the opening and confirmation of all this, let us consider the game below, played in the International master Nigel Short was kind enough to give over with me the game in which he beat the first world champion, the Grandmaster, Victor Kuperchik, at the ICPC Grandmaster Tournament at Hastings. The game itself was no great shakes, since Kuperchik lost through a very elementary blunder. But the way Short exploited this gave the game its artistic value, and the way he explained it to me followed the pattern of the way I thought that a chess book should be written. The book is described

White: Nigel Short. Black: Viktor Kupreichik.
Lopez, Bird's Defense.

1 P-K4	P-K4
2 N-KB3	N-QB3
3 B-N5	N-Q5
4 R-R4	

The main line here is 4 N×N, but the text move has been played before, though not with any pronounced success for White.

4 B-84
5 P-03
This appears to be an innovation; however, the pawn move, like the book

move which was 5 O-O, should have led to equality only.

5 ... Q-B3
6 QN-Q2 P-QN4?

Aggressive but weakening; as soon as appears, Black's pawn move weakens him severely on the white squares. Instead he should play 6... N-K2.

7 B-N3 P-Q3

But now the logical move was 7... NxB when however 8 NxN retains an advantage for White.

8 NaN	BxN
9 N-B3	B-N5
10 P-B3	B-N3
11 P-QR4	PxP

Or 11 . . . P-B3; 12 PxP.
 PxP: 13 B-Q5, when White
 has a marked advantage.

12 BxRPch	K-B1
13 B-K3	N-K2

A blunder; better was 13.
BxN; 14 QxB, QxQ; 15 PxB.
P-KB3 when, however, White
still has the upper hand.

14	NxP	PxN
15	Qx8	P-KR4
16	O-B3	QxQ
17	PxO	N-N3
18	P-N4	K-K2
19	K-K2	KR-O1
20	KB-KN1	R-O3

Or 21 . . . OR-Q1; 22 B-QB4
and White still has the deadly
threat of R-N5.

23 R-B5	R-KB3
24 R3R	PzR
25 B-Q5	R-QB1
26 P-H5	K-K2
27 P-QB4	N-B5ch
28 K-Q2	

The one and only moment when one can criticize White's play, and, to do him justice, it was Short himself who pointed out that he should have played 28 BxN, PxB; 29 R-KN1 with an easy win.

28 N-N7
29 R-QB1 Nx8
30 PxN R-KN1
If 30 . . . B-B4; 31 R-KN1
followed by R-N7.

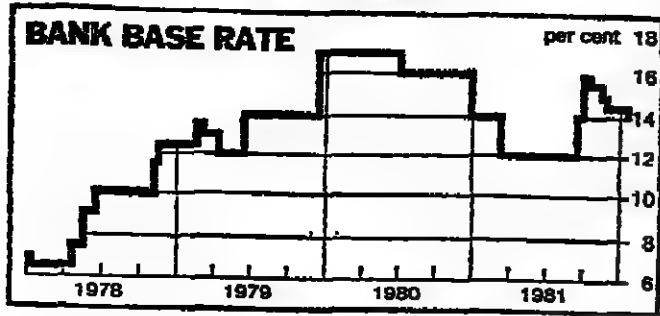
31	P-Q4	PxP
32	P-B5	B-R4 ch
33	K-Q3	PxP
34	R-OR1	B-N5
35	RxP	R-N7
36	P-N6	P-K7

If 36...BxP; 37.RxPch.
 K-Q3; 38.R-B6ch.
 37 PxP K-Q2
 38 P-B6 ch K-Q3
 If 38...K-B1; 39.BxP,
 P-K5=N ch; 40.K-B4,R-B7ch;
 41.K-N5,R-B4ch; 42.K-N6
 39 P-B8=Q P-K8=Q
 40 Q-N8 ch K-B4
 41 Q-B8 ch K-N4
 42 B-B4 ch K-N3
 and Black resigns.

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week This table is published on Wednesday and Saturday—FT Index change on week 567.2 + 35.6 (6.7%)[illegible]

BUSINESS NEWS

Bank rate falls



The banks' base lending rates, which went up from 12 per cent to 16 per cent late last summer in response to a surge in bank lending and weakness in sterling, are coming down from 14½ to 14 per cent. Mortgage rates will remain unchanged.

Britain's top earner

Mr Richard Giordano, the 46-year-old American chief executive of BOC International, continues to be Britain's highest paid executive with a salary last year of £477,100. This is disclosed in BOC's latest annual report for the year to September 1980. In 1980 he earned a record £271,400.

Romanian debt talks

Western bankers had further talks with Romanian officials on Thursday and yesterday in Bucharest against a background of growing concern over Romania's failure to keep up with repayments on its foreign debt estimated at \$10,000m to \$13,000m (£5,300m to £6,500m).

EEC jobless top 10 million

The number of registered unemployed in the European Community topped the 10 million mark at the end of last year.

According to Eurostat, the EEC's statistical office, the number of unemployed in the Community, excluding Greece, advanced by 2.7 per cent in December bringing the Community's workforce without jobs to 9.2 per cent. Over 1981 the number out of work in the Community of the nine rose by just over 2.25 million.

Eurostat also detected a marked deterioration in male as opposed to female unemployment in recent months.

Country	Total	Per cent
Italy	2,145,900	9.6
Germany	1,703,900	6.5
France	2,014,400	8.9
Netherlands	473,200	9.1
Belgium	525,400	12.9
Luxembourg	2,028	1.3
United Kingdom	2,940,700	11.3
Ireland	141,100	11.5
Denmark	251,000	9.5

MARKET SUMMARY

Equities shot in the arm

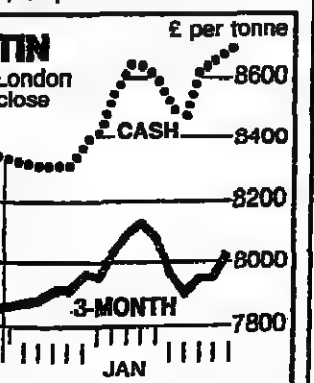
LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 567.2 up 8.1
FT 100 64.15 up 0.22
FT All-share 323.39 up 40
Bargains 23,611

Cheaper money and the possibility of a mild Budget on March 9 provided a further shot in the arm for equities yesterday. The FT Index, the top thirty shares ended the account 8.1 up at 567.2, a rise on the account of 35.8. This is the highest level the index has reached since September 3, when it stood at 568.0. Gilt-edged issues were also helped by the cut in bank base rates by ½ per cent to 14 per cent and the decision of the Government to restrict the fund-raising to one index-linked stock of £750m 2½ per cent 2011 £35 paid. Longs closed the day with rises of up to 2½ with shorts 1½ higher. Only the existing index-linked stocks suffered losing up to 21. The high turnover in equities was just the trigger for one seller of 2m Trusthouse Forte at 120p which was cleared without affecting the price 4p up at 124p. Leadshare Sterling was suspended at 88p at the company's request pending a further announcement. Bricom Investments, a subsidiary of British & Commonwealth Shipping, holds 79.69 per cent. A bid for the remainder has not been ruled out. Ultramar recovered 3p to 436p after Thursday's weakness on talks of a rights issue and a bearish broker's circular. Brokers Scott Giff Hancock say they were not responsible for the circular and remain long-term bulls of Ultramar. Meanwhile, National Westminster led the latest round of interest-rate cutting for borrowers, reducing its charges by ½ per cent to 14 per cent. The move had already been discounted but the shares still benefited. Nat West rose 10p to 416p, Barclays 7p to 463p, Midland 11p to 361p, and Lloyds 13p to 451p. But elsewhere in banks, Hambro Life tumbled 10p to 146p after news of disappointing results. Saatchi & Saatchi was in a better frame of mind after learning it had retained the Conservative Party contract for the next general election. After hours trading saw a surge in Hurdley & Palmer's price, still being tipped as a likely takeover candidate, and closing 3p up at 103p. Equity Turner on January 21 was £182,567m (16,777 bargains).

COMMODITIES

On the London Metal Exchange cash tin set a new trading high of £8,690 per tonne for standard grade. During morning dealings with the main feature heavy forward buying against fresh physical demand. At the afternoon close standard grade cash was trading at £8,687.50 per tonne, a rise of £32.50 on the day, and three months was at £8,035 per tonne.



Trade sources in London said the International Cocoa Organization buffer stock manager has now bought sufficient cocoa from Ghana to complete the quota of 6,400 tonnes agreed for the country between cocoa producers in November, entailing purchases yesterday of 400 tonnes. No price or shipment details were available, and there was no news of buffer stock buying from other origins.

World production of cocoa during 1982 (October to September) could be around 28,000 tonnes in deficit due to considerable reductions in West Africa supplies, trade sources said in Paris.

De Lorean leaves

Mr John De Lorean, chairman of the De Lorean car company, flew from London to New York yesterday, expecting to return next week to continue discussions with Mr James Prior, Secretary for Northern Ireland, about the company's future.

Mr De Lorean is understood to require Government guarantees for loans of about £5m, but the Government wants greater involvement in running the company.

Gloom to boom

Corby, Northants, was both a depressed area and a boom town. Mr Norman Lamont, Minister for Industry, said yesterday. Although 6,000 lost their jobs with the steelworks closure in 1979, 1,200 new jobs had since been created, with a further 3,000 projected, and a 22 per cent jobless rate was now falling 2 per cent a year, he said.

Inflation slows

Inflation in the United States slowed to its lowest level in four years in 1981, rising by only 6.9 per cent as recession and unemployment cut heavily into all areas of consumer spending.

Argyll pays £3m for Pricerite

Argyll pays £3m for Pricerite

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Mr James Gulliver's Argyll Foods group is buying the 67 Pricerite discount stores from BAT Stores for £3m. This is Argyll's first big expansion move since the attempted takeover of Lifford Holdings failed after an intervention by the Office of Fair Trading.

It is Argyll's Lo-Cost subsidiary that is buying the Pricerite chain, which is spread through the Midlands, the North-West and Wales. BAT has already sold the southern half of the chain to Fine Fare.

Lo-Cost has 107 stores which, like Pricerite, trade on a discount formula with a limited number of grocery lines.

Argyll is valuing Pricerite, which has an annual turnover of £34m, at £3.8m. There are 25 freehold and 42 leasehold stores and a distribution depot at Chester which is on a long lease. Trading discount stock will cost not more than another £3.5m, Argyll said.

The addition of Pricerite will bring the Lo-Cost annual turnover to more than £100m, Argyll believes.

The deal is a further indication of BAT's move towards larger grocery outlets. It is half-way through a three-year £60m development programme of its Mainstay supermarkets and its international stores division plan to open five larger supermarkets this year. But the future of some of the many smaller grocery outlets in the international chain of 450 outlets is still in doubt.

RTZ snubs new approach for Ward

By Gareth David

Rio Tinto Zinc is refusing to increase its £136 bid for Thos. W. Ward, the cement group, after the directors of Ward said they would now be prepared to recommend a higher offer.

Ward made the move, in what has been a long and bitter takeover battle, after RTZ had taken its stake in the group to 41 per cent.

Ward's last-minute change of heart could open the way for RTZ to come back with a new offer with the agreement of the Ward Board and the 12-month Takeover Panel rule on raised bids would then be avoided.

Rule 35 prevents a company such as RTZ making a new bid within 12 months and is designed to stop a company being put under siege, but it would automatically be suspended in the case of a recommended offer. Sir Alistair Frame, chairman of RTZ, said yesterday that he was prepared to talk to Ward about anything but the price.

But Ward chairman Mr Peter Frost said that he was available for talks at any time and anticipated having further talks with RTZ before very long.

The directors of Ward said in a statement yesterday that it would be in the best interests of their employees and the Ward businesses if they were able to join the RTZ Group on an amicable basis.

Ward also requested RTZ to make public the terms it intends offering for Tunnel Holdings, another cement-making company in which Ward has a 42 per cent stake.

RTZ owns eight per cent of Tunnel so control of Ward would give RTZ control of the company. RTZ welcomed the group's acknowledgment that an amicable merger would be in the best interests of both businesses.

By Bill Johnstone
Sony, the Japanese electronics group, is preparing to launch its compact audio disc this autumn in Britain possibly six months ahead of Philips, its European inventor.

The new disc which is about 4 inches in diameter is expected to be launched by Sony in Japan and in Britain simultaneously.

Philips, on whose technology the disc is based, is expected to bring out its own product in the Spring of 1982.

It was two years ago that Sony and the Dutch-based company Philips signed a collaboration agreement on the disc technology. Now Sony will be competing with Philips with products based on Philips' innovation.

The compact audio disc contains hundreds of small pits which represent pulses of sound information. A laser light source, replacing the conventional stylus scans the disc, and electronically converts

Bank acts to encourage lower interest rates

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

At the weekly Treasury bill tender, aggressive bidding by the discount houses lowered the bill rate for new 90-day bills from 14.5 to 13.5 per cent.

Just how far and how quickly the authorities would now like to see interest rates fall seems likely to depend in part on what other countries do and how the pound behaves on foreign exchange markets.

Yesterday sterling dipped below \$1.87 immediately after the news that National Westminster had cut its base rate. But it recovered to close only 80 points down on the day at \$1.873 and rallied against leading European currencies.

The pound has held up extremely well in the face of the closing of the interest

rate advantages over New York, helped by the miners' vote not to strike.

But there remains uncertainty as to how the pound would behave if United States interest rates move to higher levels in the coming weeks.

Although there seems to be general agreement among the major European countries and the United States Government that interest rates need to come down, it is not at all clear that this view is shared by the Federal Reserve.

The money supply is now under better control, the pay round is viewed as going reasonably well and the underlying trend in inflation is expected to improve from the spring onwards.

This week's fall in interest rates has given a boost not only to gilts but also to shares. The FT 30 share index gained 8.1 to 567.2 yesterday, making a gain of 36 points over the five trading days.

The new index-linked stock issues at £750m nominal and will carry a coupon of 2½, as opposed to 2 per cent. It will also be longer, maturing in 2011, and will be partly paid.

The initial payment has been set at £35 per cent, the balance falling due on March 16. Potential subscribers are once again restricted to pension funds.

The two existing stocks yield about 2½ per cent and 3 per cent respectively. There is not minimum tender price for the new stock.

Mr Roy Collins: 47 years in the Stock Exchange

Departure of a wise man

By Michael Clark

The ranks of the "three wise men", jobbers at Wedd Durlacher Mordant, who make prices in some of the more unusual stocks quoted on the stock market, were depleted by one yesterday after retirement of Mr Roy Collins, after 47 years.

But apart from sounding like characters from Robert Louis Stevenson's famous novel, Wedd's three wise men who work from the

"Treasure Island" pitch, deal in some of the lesser known stocks, shunned by their competitors, including the Whistable Bay Oyster Company.

Mr Collins joined the Stock Exchange in 1935 as a blue button, dealers clerk, but owing to the war only became an authorised dealer in 1951. Just before becoming a member in 1961 he

joined Bone, Oldham, Bordaunt and Seal which later merged with Wedd Durlacher.

Mr Collins is unable to remember exactly how the three wise men were formed, but now in tends to spend more time at his home in Uppminster, in Essex. However, he will not sever his links with the market entirely and may continue to deal from time to time.

By Frances Williams and Derek Harris

High Street trading hit by weather

By Frances Williams and Derek Harris

The weather largely put paid to retailers' hopes of a merry Christmas and prospects for 1982 do not look too happy either despite a surge of sales buying.

Official figures published yesterday show that business in Britain's high streets fell by 0.9 per cent in December, the second monthly drop in a row. The figures are seasonally adjusted and take into account the fact that trade normally rises in the run-up to Christmas, and again afterwards when the winter sales begin.

The appalling weather which disrupted pre-Christmas shopping and the start of the sales clearly depressed business. But the sluggish trade may also reflect a general downturn in consumer spending because of the squeeze on incomes.

Up to now spending has held up well. The Department of Trade suggests that the underlying level of trade has

remained roughly constant since last spring, with business over 1981 as a whole about 2 per cent up on 1980.

Despite the disappointing winter trade, business in the fourth quarter was up ½ per cent on the third quarter.

The Retail Consortium has had reports from more than half a dozen chains on better-than-expected sales in January. But the consortium still expects that if the Budget is neutral in its effect on consumer spending power, sales will decline this year.

Heron in £46.4m bid for ACC

By Philip Robinson

Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation launched a £46.4m takeover bid for Associated Communications Corporation yesterday just hours before his High Court action to prevent Australian financier Mr Robert Holmes a Court from gaining a quick victory over Lord Grade's old company.

Mr Holmes a Court's bid is £10m lower, but he has promises from ACC directors to accept it which would give him 63.3 per cent of the votes and control.

Last night Mr Ronson dropped a High Court action against the Independent Broadcasting Authority. He had been trying to prevent them approving transfers of shares from ACC directors to Mr Holmes a Court.

But he obtained an extension of Thursday's injunction restraining ACC directors from transferring the shares. Both sides return to the High Court on Monday when it is expected that ACC will argue it was in the best interests of the company to accept Mr Holmes a Court's bid because of its financial state.

The case was suggested that ACC's financial director will be called to give evidence when the hearing resumes.

Meanwhile, ACC is going ahead with its attempts to get the IBA to approve the share transfers. It was thought last night that even though Mr Ronson's offer (85p for the non-voting shares and 340p for the voting shares) is higher, it has come too late.

Providing the share transfers are allowed, Mr Holmes a Court can win control directly as soon as his formal offer document is posted next week. He could have gained victory yesterday, had Mr Ronson's injunctions not been granted. Under new takeover rules which came into force at midnight on Thursday, he cannot count the crucial voting shares as his until the document is out. However, he still needs the permission of the Secretary of State before he owns the company.

On Monday, the Post Office pension fund, leading ten of ACC non-voting institutional shareholders, goes into court to see injunctions that the asset-rich entertainments to property group does not pay over cash or sell property to dismissed managing director Mr Jack Gill.

The pension funds are opposing the £560,000 golden handshake to Mr Gill.

Lloyd's committee may expel member

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The Committee of Lloyd's is taking the unprecedented step of trying to expel one of its members, Mr Reid Wilson, an underwriter who used to be connected with the Christopher Moran Group. It is the first time in the history of the London insurance market that the full weight of its archaic disciplinary powers has been brought into play.

A notice posted yesterday in the underwriting room at Lloyd's read: "In connexion with the arbitration pursuant to Section 22 of the Lloyd's Act 1877 against Mr R. E. P. Wilson, the arbitrators have found Mr Wilson guilty of acts and defaults discreditable to him as an underwriter. Accordingly, the Committee has resolved that a special meeting of members will be convened to decide whether Mr Wilson should be excluded from membership of our Society."

Four-fifths of those present need to vote in favour of expulsion and the date of the meeting will be fixed when the outcome of arbitration against Mr Christopher Moran, due to start on July 12, is known. Mr Moran, one-time managing director of Christopher Moran Group, was acquitted of fraud charges at the Old Bailey just before Christmas along with fellow accused, Mr Derek Walker, a Lloyd's underwriter.

Lloyd's has no proceedings against Mr Derek Walker but has already taken disciplinary action against another former Christopher Moran Group executive, Mr James Redgrave, who was suspended for six months last year after being found guilty of discreditable conduct.

Mr Wilson was the underwriter of Syndicate 566 which was managed by Harman Hedley Agencies, a subsidiary of Christopher Moran, until it was sold to Reed Stenhouse Holdings last June. The Lloyd's proceedings relate to re-insurance transactions which took place between 1975 and 1979.

According to the 1980 report and accounts of Christopher Moran, it became apparent that in April 1979 the volume of business being undertaken by Syndicate 566 under the binding authority given by the Christopher Moran & Co broking subsidiary was likely to give rise to problems in complying with certain Lloyd's regulations.

Coutts & Co

Coutts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is reduced from 14½% to 14% per annum with effect from the 25th January 1982 until further notice.

The Deposit Rate on monies subject to seven days notice of withdrawal is reduced from 12½% to 11½% per annum.

National Westminster Bank Limited

NatWest announces that with effect from Monday, 25th January, 1982, its Base Rate is reduced from 14½% to 14% per annum.

The basic Deposit and Savings Account rates are reduced from 12½% to 11½% per annum.

Japanese may beat inventor to the market

Sony aims for mini disc first

By Bill Johnstone

Sony, the Japanese electronics group, is preparing to launch its compact audio disc this autumn in Britain possibly six months ahead of Philips, its European inventor.

The new disc which is about 4 inches in diameter is expected to be launched by Sony in Japan and in Britain simultaneously.

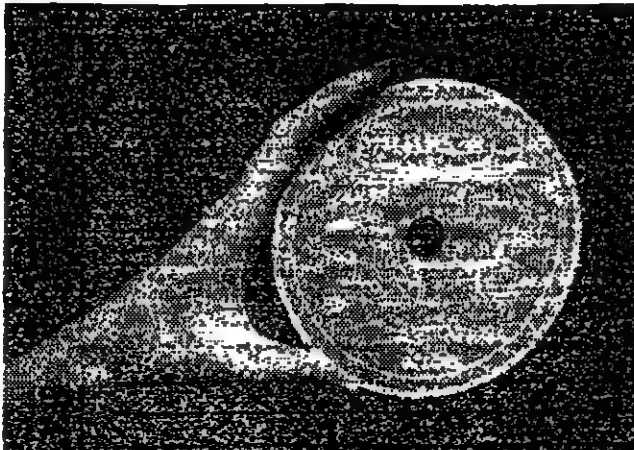
Philips, on whose technology the disc is based, is expected to bring out its own product in the Spring of 1982.

It was two years ago that Sony and the Dutch-based company Philips signed a collaboration agreement on the disc technology. Now Sony will be competing with Philips with products based on Philips' innovation.

The compact audio disc contains hundreds of small pits which represent pulses of sound information. A laser light source, replacing the conventional stylus scans the disc, and electronically converts

verts the information on the disc into high quality sound. Each disc will play on one side only for about an hour.

However, some industry observers feel that neither Sony nor Philips may realize its launch target. Philips has already experienced the problems of producing digital



The compact sound disc

players will be made in Hasselt, Belgium, and the discs pressed by Polygram in Germany. Secrecy surrounds the more commercial aspects of this new industry. However, the audio players are expected to cost for about £300 and the discs for slightly more than the price of an ordinary LP record.

But the battle for the video tape recording side of the industry continues among the three designers — Sony, JVC, Philips.

The video battle, however, is further complicated by the presence of video discs and the rivalry which may result between them and the recorders.

Sony has abandoned promoting the disc in the consumer market and sees the product's future as a communications and teaching aid in industry or commerce. Philips is committed to the video disc as a consumer product and has been conducting trials in the United States.

EDITED BY LORNA BOURKE



Malcolm Block who has the weighty responsibility of running M & G's Australasian Fund which many Times readers have backed as the winning unit trust for 1982

The Times-Money Programme Unit Trust Competition

This is your last opportunity to enter The Times - Money Programme Unit Trust Competition. Today is the final publication of the entry form and the closing date is next Saturday, January 30, 1982. We will be revealing our experts' choices.

Entrants have some very decided views on unit trust selection and their choices for the best performing trust in 1982 reveal 2 strong interests in investment. A high proportion have opted for a specialist trust, an obvious choice since they tend to be volatile performers and generally appear either at the top or bottom of the tables. Most popular choice to date has been M & G's

Australasian Fund, top performer in 1980 but languishing at the very bottom of the charts. M & G's American Recovery Fund is running a close second.

There is heavy support for the Eastern & International Fund, specifically Crescent Tokyo, Gartmore's Far East, and Japan & General Trusts, Hill Samuel's Far East fund and Save & Prosper's South East Asia Trust.

Professional Investment Advisers are the winners of the competition with 50 and 25 for each of the runners-up. The competition is being run jointly with BBC 2 Television's Money Programme.

Entries in the under 18 category have been a bit thin so far, but there has been a request from a school for 30 entry forms which can be obtained from BBC TV's Money Programme as well as through the pages of The Times. Only one entrant has been disqualified for sending in a photocopied entry form.

We usually publish unit trust performance statistics on a sector basis - financial trusts, income trusts and so on. To help readers who are entering the unit trust competition make their choice, the figures this month will not be split into sectors, and it should be easier to see which trusts performed best overall.

The tables show the value on January 4, 1982, of £100 invested 12 months ago (column A) and two years ago (column B) net income reinvested and based on offer to the public. Figures supplied by Planned Savings Magazine, 150-152 Caledonian Road, London N1 9RD.

Trust	A	B
Grievson/Grantchester	108.5 138.5	101.8 117.7
London Wall/Extra Inc	108.4 103.7	101.7 126.9
S&P/Europan Gr	108.4 103.6	101.6 128.5
Hill Samuel/Secur	108.4 103.6	101.4 128.0
S&P/Scottish	108.2 146.8	101.3 127.0
Lloyds North Amer	108.2	101.1 156.2
S&P/Select Inter	108.1 159.2	100.9 107.2
M&G/Compound Gr	108.0 149.1	100.8 94.7
Hill Samuel/Secur	108.0 126.6	100.7 130.5
T&G/Vanguard Hl Yld	107.9 157.6	100.6 152.2
Schroder Capital	107.9 144.6	100.5 124.4
Baring Bros Situat	107.9 144.6	100.5 124.4
British Life Balancd	107.9 139.5	100.4 146.8
Confederation Gr Un	107.9 139.5	100.3 171.4
A-Hamro Inter	107.9 139.1	100.2 141.4
Britannia Recovery	107.9 139.1	99.9 145.5
M&G/Small Cos & R	107.7 140.3	99.8 123.7
Cliffgate General	107.7 133.7	99.8
Britannia Far East	107.6 162.5	99.7 141.5
Capel N American	107.6 119.9	99.5 153.1
Chiefly Int & G	107.5 117.2	99.5 104.1
Hill Samuel/Secur	107.5 117.2	99.4 104.1
HK Private	107.2 151.6	99.3 163.1
G.T. Income	107.1 142.1	99.0 140.4
Mutual Income	107.1 122.9	99.0 138.1
G.T.U.S. & General	107.1 134.5	98.7 102.4
Midland Drayton O'ses	107.0 132.7	98.4 108.9
S&P/Scottish	107.0 132.7	98.4 113.5
HK Extra Income	107.0 122.6	98.1
Vanguard Trustee	107.0 135.0	98.1
London Wall/Car Grth	106.9 146.8	97.7 109.6
Fielding International	106.9 125.9	97.7
Crescent American	106.8 167.8	97.7
Chiefly High Inc'm	106.7 114.1	97.7
Target Growth	106.7 114.1	97.7
Nat West Portfolio Inv	106.7 127.7	97.5 110.6
New Court Equity	106.6 138.9	97.4 106.0
S&P/UK Equity	106.6 138.9	97.3 122.2
Mutual/Bank Corp	106.6 138.9	97.3 122.2
Archway Fund	106.5 144.0	97.3 113.2
Buckmaster Marbro	106.4 146.7	96.8 119.5
Barclaybank America	106.3 128.9	96.7 125.5
Manulife Growth	106.2 132.3	96.7 125.5
Norbridge	106.2 132.3	96.7 125.5
HK Income	106.1 110.8	96.6
Gartmore Lussac Aes	106.1 135.9	96.5
Britannia Extra Inc	106.0 109.9	96.5
Mercury Income	105.9 132.8	96.5
Key Equity and Gen	105.9 152.1	96.5
HK Far East & Gen	105.9 152.1	96.5
Britannia Prop Shars	105.9 152.1	96.5
Abbey Investment Tr	105.9 152.1	96.5
Carr Sabag Income	105.9 152.1	96.5
T&G/Vanguard Grth	105.9 152.1	96.5
James Finlay Inv Tr	105.9 152.1	96.5
Practical	105.9 152.1	96.5
HK Americas	105.9 152.1	96.5
Barclaybank Fin	105.9 152.1	96.5
Target Community	105.9 152.1	96.5
Arbuthnot Frst & Glt	105.9 152.1	96.5
Mutual/Security Plus	105.9 152.1	96.5
Schroder Europe	105.9 152.1	96.5
Target/Professional	105.9 152.1	96.5
Martin Currie	105.9 152.1	96.5
Britannia Profession	105.9 152.1	96.5
M&G/Conv Growth	105.9 152.1	96.5
Keinworth Benson Pit	105.9 152.1	96.5
M&G/Fin	105.9 152.1	96.5
Gartmore American	105.9 152.1	96.5
Henderson/Internat	105.9 152.1	96.5
Brown Ship North Am	105.9 152.1	96.5
Choularton Growth	105.9 152.1	96.5
James Finlay Intern	105.9 152.1	96.5
Barclaybank Worldw	105.9 152.1	96.5
Key Fixed Inc	105.9 152.1	96.5
Gartmore Internat	105.9 152.1	96.5
Trades Union Units	105.9 152.1	96.5
Manulife Glen Fd	105.9 152.1	96.5
Darlington	105.9 152.1	96.5
Arbuthnot Growth	105.9 152.1	96.5
Allen Harv & Ross Glt	105.9 152.1	96.5
L&C Internat & Gen	105.9 152.1	96.5
Midland Drayton Hl Yld	105.9 152.1	96.5
Brown Ship Units	105.9 152.1	96.5
HK Market Leaders	105.9 152.1	96.5
Arbuthnot High Inc	105.9 152.1	96.5

Times - Money Programme 1982 Unit Trust Competition

1. Competitors are invited to select their unit trust and to submit a completed entry form to the competition by the closing date on Monday, January 30, 1982. The winner will be the competitor whose first choice is the best performing unit trust. Second and third choices will be taken into account only in the event of a tie. In the event of a tie, the winner will be the competitor whose first choice is the best performing unit trust. Second and third choices will be taken into account only in the event of a tie. In the event of a tie, the winner will be the competitor whose first choice is the best performing unit trust. Second and third choices will be taken into account only in the event of a tie.

ENTRY FORM

Name _____ Address _____

Telephone Number _____

The unit trust I believe will perform best in 1982 is:

First choice — 1 _____

Second choice — 2 _____

Third choice — 3 _____

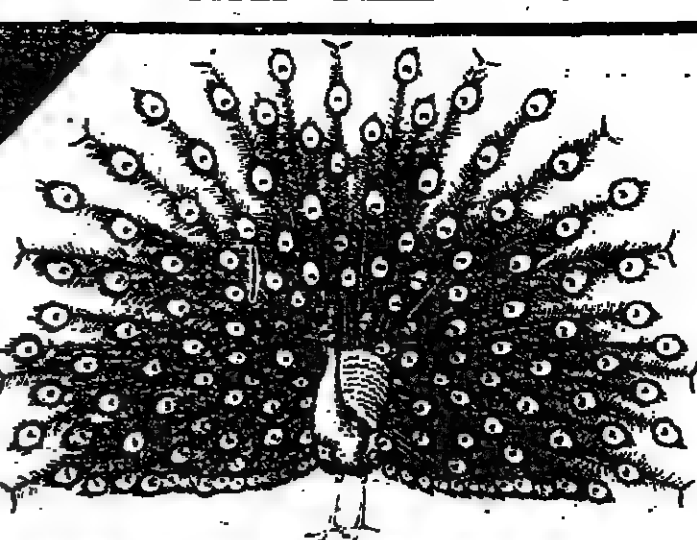
Category (Please tick appropriate line)

1 General □ 2 Professional Adviser □ 3 Under 18 years □

The Breaker: I estimate that the value of £100 invested in the unit trust of my first choice will be worth £..... (net income reinvested) on Monday, 3 January, 1983.

Send your completed entry form to: Times Newspapers Ltd., PO Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. PLEASE MARK YOUR ENVELOPE - UNIT TRUST COMPETITION.

Invest in success for 1982



A fine spread of investments for Capital Growth from Arbuthnot

Invest with a strong management team with proven performance

3 Arbuthnot funds in top 20 of all 436 funds for 1981*

2nd IN 1981 EASTERN & INTERNATIONAL FUND Far East and Japan **+46.2%** DURING 1981 Actively managed with selected investments particularly in Japan.

5th IN 1981 SMALLER COMPANIES FUND Special situations **+38.5%** Selected smaller companies with world-wide opportunities

17th IN 1981 FOREIGN FUND Making the most of International opportunities **+28.3%** A small fast growing international opportunity fund.

Our selection for long term future growth **COMMODITY SHARE FUND** OVER 10 YEARS **+329.5%** For recovery in the world economies as re-stocking takes place

ASK YOUR PROFESSIONAL INVESTMENT ADVISER, OR SEND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TO: Sir David Scott-Barren K.B.E., M.C., Arbuthnot Securities Limited, 37 Queen Street, London EC4R 1BY, or telephone 01-236 5281.

Please tick box as appropriate:

☐ Arbuthnot Eastern & International Fund

☐ Arbuthnot Smaller Companies Fund

☐ Arbuthnot Foreign Fund

☐ Arbuthnot Commodity Share Fund

☐ Arbuthnot Monthly Savings Plan

Name _____ Address _____

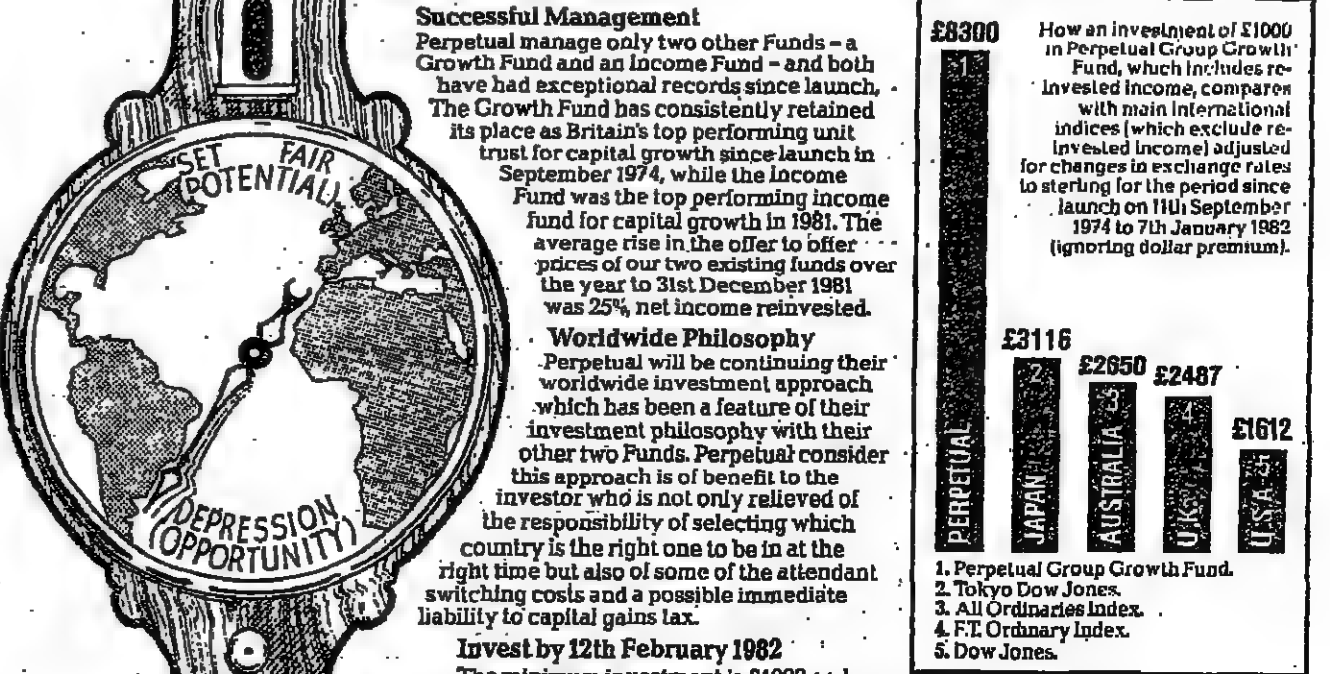
PERPETUAL GROUP WORLDWIDE RECOVERY FUND

A chance to be in the right investments as the climate changes. The world in general is currently experiencing a very deep trade recession. In our opinion investments made now in depressed shares worldwide offer outstanding growth prospects. Indeed, similar opportunities may not occur again for many years. This is why Perpetual are launching their new Worldwide Recovery Fund - and launching it NOW.

Investment Objectives

The aim of the Fund is maximum capital growth. The Fund will be invested in a diverse range of companies around the world which Perpetual believe have exceptional recovery prospects due to the companies concerned having fallen on hard times or their share prices being in Perpetual's opinion unduly depressed due to a sector, a country or a particular share being temporarily out of favour with investors. The Fund is speculative and the risk/reward ratio is high so that performance could be volatile.

It is anticipated that the Fund's initial portfolio will be deployed as follows: Canada 5%, Far East 20%, South Africa 5%, U.K. 55%, U.S.A. 15%. The U.K. content will be biased towards companies having substantial overseas interests. Percentage allocations will vary at the sole discretion of the Managers.



Successful Management

Perpetual manage only two other Funds - a Growth Fund and an Income Fund - and both have had exceptional records since launch. The Growth Fund has consistently retained its place as Britain's top performing unit trust for capital growth since launch in September 1974, while the Income Fund was the top performing income fund for capital growth in 1981. The average rise in the offer to offer prices of our two existing funds over the year to 31st December 1981 was 25% net income reinvested.

Worldwide Philosophy

Perpetual will be continuing their worldwide investment approach which has been a feature of their investment philosophy with their other two Funds. Perpetual consider this approach is of benefit to the investor who is not only relieved of the responsibility of selecting which country is the right one to be in at the right time but also of some of the attendant switching costs and a possible immediate liability to capital gains tax.

Invest by 12th February 1982

The minimum investment is £1000 and units are on offer at a fixed price of 50p until 12th February 1982. Simply complete the coupon below and send it to us together with your cheque. You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

General Information

Units are accumulation units. Income is automatically reinvested in the Fund. The estimated gross commencement yield is 9% per annum. All applications will be acknowledged and certificates will be forwarded by 30th April 1982.

If you wish to sell your units, the Managers will purchase them at not less than the minimum bid price on the weekly Subscription Day (Tuesday) following receipt of your instructions. Payment will normally be made within twenty-one days of the receipt of your requested certificate. Prices and yields will appear daily in the Financial Times and The Daily Telegraph.

Perpetual Group Worldwide Recovery Fund is constituted and administered under a Trust Deed dated 15th December 1981 and is a 'widerange' investment under the Trust Investments Act 1961.

Unit holders will receive on or before 1st April each year commencing 1st April 1982 a statement showing the net unit value and the amount of income tax deducted.

An initial management charge of 2.5% on the assets (equivalent to 5% of the net unit value) is included in the price of the units. Out of this the Managers will pay commission to authorised agents; rates are available on request. There is an annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Fund which will be deducted from the gross income of the Fund. The Trust Deed permits a maximum annual charge of 1.5% (plus VAT).

The Trust is managed by Perpetual Group Ltd. The Managers of the Fund are Perpetual Unit Trust Management Ltd, 48 Hart Street, Healey-on-Thames, Oxon. OX9 2AZ. Tel: 04912-5684.

This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

Application for Units in Perpetual Group Worldwide Recovery Fund

Fill in the coupon and send it to: Perpetual Unit Trust Management Ltd, 48 Hart Street, Healey-on-Thames, Oxon. OX9 2AZ. Tel: Healey-on-Thames (04912) 6888. Regd. in England No. 154-021 at the above address.

I/We wish to invest £..... (minimum £1000)

In Perpetual Group Worldwide Recovery Fund at the initial offer price of 50p per unit. (Offer closes on 12th February 1982.)

I/We enclose a remittance, payable to Perpetual Unit Trust Management Ltd.

I am/We are over the age of 18.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____

First name(s) in full _____

Address _____

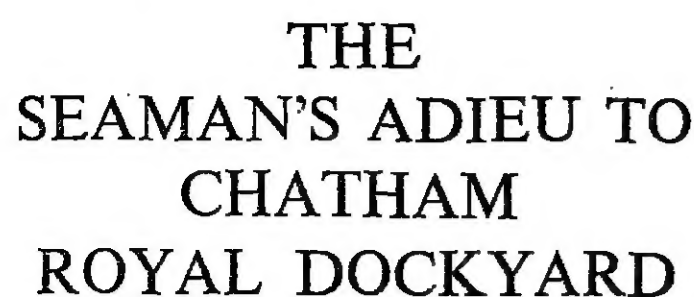
Signature(s) _____

(Joint applicants must all sign and attach names and addresses separately.)

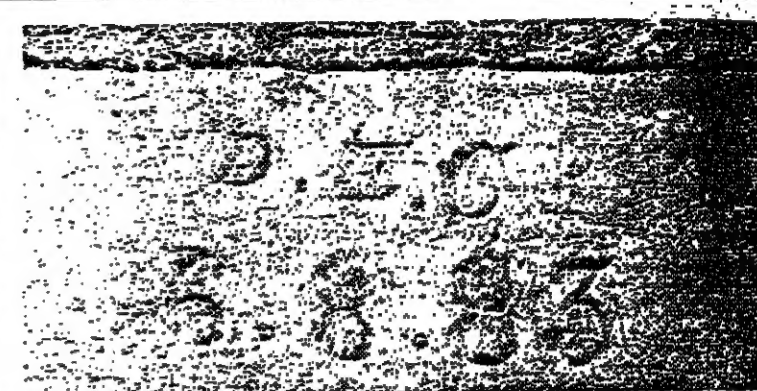
Stock Exchange Prices Strong close to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End Feb 12. Settlement Day, Feb 22
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1981/82 High Low Company Price Chg Pence % P/E				1981/82 High Low Company Price Chg Pence % P/E				1981/82 High Low Company Price Chg Pence % P/E				1981/82 High Low Company Price Chg Pence % P/E			
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Verse by Philip Howard



An aspiring Lieutenant (top) flanked by the wooden quarter badges from an earlier HMS Chatham, possibly a yacht built in 1716 or 1741. The door is to the offices of Flag Officer, Medway, and Port Admiral. Chatham, built in 1809 to a design by Edward Hall. Graffiti in a brick (above) from 1883 by an unknown carver.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

[illegible]